Kensington & Chelsea NEWS

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PARTY TIME: The street festival that teaches Europe how to party is now showing the Mayor of London how to make money – as Notting Hill Carnival has been hailed as one of the capital's biggest bread-winners. Organisers say Carnival injected almost £100 million into the London economy as this year's boisterously-vibrant explosion of Calypso cheer was reckoned as the most successful yet. Although Carnival is funded with around £6 million of public money – mainly to pay for the large police presence of some 9,000 officers on duty – the return is estimated to be £93 million spent by the hundreds of thousands who joined the weekend of wonder. SUPPLEMENT, PAGES 15–18
Picture: REX/Shutterstock

The Queen reaches historic milestone





PAGES 13, 14 & 19

London landmarks jigsaw puzzle to win



PAGE 12

Revolt over post office closure bid

SHELL-SHOCKED Post Office officials will face the wrath of Kensington and Chelsea residents next week at a public meeting called by worried council chiefs over plans to axe Earl's Court post office – the ninth to face the chop in the past 11 years. Campaigners threaten they'll take their protest to Parliament. ***Full report, Page 3***

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FUNDING INITIATIVE SUPPORTS VITAL SCHEMES ACROSS THE CAPITAL

Success sweet for 16 volunteer projects

A PEOPLE'S café, a 'speed-greening' project and a gym group that helps the elderly are among 16 inspirational projects to win mayoral funding to increase volunteering opportunities for Londoners. Funding between £2,500 and £10,000 has been given to a range of projects across the capital through Team London's Small Grants innovation fund.

Projects include GoodGym, a city-wide group of runners who carry out physical tasks to help community organisations and visit isolated older people as part of their workouts, and Create London, whose volunteers encourage enterprise among young people while bringing back the East End tradition of hop picking.

Now in its fourth year, the Mayor's Team London Small Grants scheme was established to help expand vital local projects and provide more volunteering opportunities for Londoners across the capital. Last year alone, £300,000 was given to the third sector in grants to support small charities in London focused on innovation in volunteer recruitment and has helped to fund over 6,700 volunteers. The focus this year is to create more speed-volunteering initiatives and schemes where volunteers work in groups.

One of the top reasons people give for not participating in volunteering is a lack of time.



FROM THE MAYOR'S OFFICE

A number of the schemes that have been awarded a grant are specially designed to enable Londoners to volunteer their time on an informal basis at short notice, in a way that's easy to sign up to, and only takes a few hours to complete.

The 16 organisations to receive a Team London grant this year are:

■ ***Delete Blood Cancer UK*** (£5,000) – Setting up Volunteer Hubs all across London to raise awareness about blood cancer and register potential stem cell donors.

■ ***GoodGym*** (£5,000) – A group of runners who carry out physical tasks to help community organisations and visit isolated older people as part of their workouts.

■ ***People Dancing*** (£5,000) – Recruiting volunteers for the Mayor's Big Dance, offering around 350 individual and 30 group-volunteering opportunities, generating at least 2,100 hours of volunteering time.

■ ***Wise Thoughts*** (£5,000) – Getting volunteers involved in the annual LGBTQI cross arts festival and the London chapter of the national LGBT History Month Festival.

■ ***Worldwrite*** (£5,000) – Providing young people, minorities and community groups with an exciting platform to voice their concerns on local and global issues and make an impact.

■ ***Create London*** (£7,500) – Encouraging enterprise among young people while bringing back the East End tradition of hop picking.

■ ***Providence Row*** (£5,000) – Working with homeless and formerly homeless adults, supporting them to move into and maintain accommodation and employment.

■ ***The Maypole Project*** (£5,000) – Helping children and young people with complex medical needs to take part in sports.

■ ***Sufra NW London*** (£5,000) – Transforming a large derelict site on St Raphael's Estate, Stonebridge, into a working food growing project, to reduce social isolation amongst the disabled, those suffering long-term illness and the elderly.

■ ***Brixton People's Kitchen*** (£5,000) – Using surplus food from local green grocers and markets to cook lunch and dinner for deprived communities and estates.

■ ***Haringey MENCAP*** (£5,000) – Providing speed volunteering opportunities for people to give up two to six hours to help others.

■ ***Volunteer Centre Kensington & Chelsea*** (£5,000) – Developing an Ambassadors scheme for people to volunteer at local events including a meet and greet service at Portobello Market.

■ ***Sutton Community Farm*** (grant of £10,000) – A welcoming, inclusive space for people to learn food growing skills and make friends.

■ ***Cordwainers Grow*** (£5,000) – Setting up 'speed-greening' sessions for people to take part in hands on gardening activities to benefit community gardens and green spaces in Hackney.

■ ***Selby Trust*** (£5,000) – Helping to combat unemployment, improve the environment, boost health and fitness and skills development through making wood products.

■ ***Deen City Farm*** (£5,000) – Offering practical volunteering opportunities for groups of employees, students and community organisations to help with farm maintenance and gardening.

The Mayor of London Boris Johnson said: "These organisations are doing fantastic work."

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NEWS FROM KENSINGTON & CHELSEA

We'll fight to save our post office

BY GEOFF BAKER
geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

THE Post Office is facing an unprecedented backlash in Kensington and Chelsea over its highly-unpopular plan to shut the Earl's Court branch – with campaigners opposing the closure now aiming to take their protest to Parliament.

Officials from the Post Office – which has received £3.1 billion in taxpayers' hand-outs since 2007 – are bracing themselves for an angry barracking from residents next week when they attempt to explain the proposed closure at a public meeting organised by Kensington and Chelsea Borough Council.

The council – which is also fiercely against the closure of the branch at 185 Earl's Court Road – has called Post Office executives to face residents on Tuesday, September 8 at St Cuthbert's Church, Philbeach Gardens, SW5 9EB. The meeting, which is expected to be stormy, will start at 7pm.

If the closure goes ahead, it will mean the loss of the ninth post office in the borough since 2004. Campaigners are furious because they believe the Post Office's proposal to "merge" the Earl's Court branch with the Kensington High Street branch would be a catastrophe for elderly and disabled residents especially.

Rarely in the borough has there been such concerted opposition to a closure – with all political parties on Kensington and Chelsea Council and the Leader of the Council united in fighting the plan and two petitions launched to pressure the Post Office to back down.

Now campaigners are to call on Kensington MP Victoria Borwick to take the protest to the floor of the House of Commons and demand that the Minister for Business and Enterprise takes up the call for the Earls Court branch to stay open.



■ **ON THE WARPATH: Campaigners spell out their determination to save their post office.**

In a series of bizarre statements, last week the Post Office argued that the closure of the Earl's Court branch was part of its "commitment to maintaining Post Office services in this area of London".

Faced with the charge that the closure would mean residents having to travel – or walk – for miles to Kensington High Street, the Post Office's Crown Network general manager, Roger Gale, said "we want to make it easier to do business with us".

In another astounding claim which indicates the Post Office's underestimating of local opposition to its plan, it said, "we believe that the majority of customers will choose to access Post Office services at Kensington."

Campaigners argue that no choice is hardly a choice and they have already started holding protest demonstrations outside the Earl's Court branch - where trade is frequently so busy that the queues for the counter stretch out into the street – and they are promising more.

Two petitions of protest have been launched, which residents are being urged to sign in order to provide more clout when campaigners go over the heads of Post Office bigwigs and take the dispute to the Commons.

The petitions are Save Earl's Court Post Office at www.change.org and another on the website of the local Lib Dems at www.kensingtonandchelsealibdems.org

Earl's Court councillor Linda Wade, who has organised the petitions and is a fierce opponent of the threatened closure, accused the Post Office of "lack of vision".

Councillor Wade said: "There is mounting concern that the closure of Earl's Court Post Office is a done deal even before the Public Consultation on Tuesday 8 September with staff having been told their fate.

"This is a keystone building in Earl's Court's High Street, it provides many essential services to the community and in to low-income and older residents. The closure at this stage, when within a couple of years there will be over 7,600 new flats, plus retail and offices, would appear to be short-termism of the most expensive kind - a complete lack of vision.

"Recently the Post Office was refurbished but failed to grasp the essential problem that they needed more trained counter staff to cope with demand – putting in expensive automatic machines aren't necessarily the answer to less counter staff.

"But worst of all, the franchise operations that replaced Chelsea and Gloucester Road Post Office are not working and so we cannot be assured that any merger is going to safeguard our services in high property value area in the future."

The Leader of Kensington and Chelsea Council, Nick Paget-Brown, is calling on residents to make their protests felt by email, phone and face-to-face with Post Office executives at next Tuesday's meeting – and he has urged locals to get neighbours and friends to join the fight too.

Councillor Paget-Brown said: "I have real concerns about the loss of another local post office and the impact this will have on residents. Also, given the lengthy queues witnessed in the branch, the idea that it is 'not profitable' does stretch credibility."

He added: "Local councillors from Earl's Court ward have already met with Post Office officials to hammer home what a valuable community asset this branch is for an area that is home to a high number of supported and sheltered housing complexes. Not only that, but there are a number of new residential developments planned for the area.

"The Post Office has launched a consultation on the proposed merger and I urge all residents to respond to it. Be sure to remind your neighbours and friends, who may be on holiday now, to respond before Wednesday 16 September. You can find details of it here www.postofficeviews.co.uk/liveconsultation.php by searching searching 'Earls Court'.

"You can question Post Office officials yourself at a public meeting the Council is organising on Tuesday 8 September at St Cuthbert's Church, Philbeach Gardens, SW5 9EB. It will start at 7pm. If you cannot make the meeting, email your questions and concerns directly to *comments@postoffice.co.uk* or phone 03457 223344."

In reply to questions from this newspaper over why the Post Office was aiming to close such an essential and popular branch, the Post Office said in a statement: "Our priority is to ensure that we provide the services that will meet customer needs."

Unless the strength of local feeling forces a U-turn, the Post Office intends to close the Earl's Court branch in January.

Pub boss insists it's 'business as usual'

LADBROKE Grove's KPH has won a reprieve in the current management's battle in the courts to win an appeal against a ruling that the owners can take over the running of the historic landmark pub.

KPH manager Vince Power has issued the following statement: "We have been notified that the court has granted the KPH a stay pending the Court of Appeal's decision on our application for permission to appeal. This is a small bit of positive news. What this means for us is that the developers bailiffs which were ordered by the court will not turn up on 8th September and the doors of the KPH will stay open for a while yet and it is business as usual.

"This is a temporary reprieve until the Court decides whether to grant the right to appeal or not."



■ **ICONIC: The KPH pub.**

The pub's owner, Steven Archer of SWA Developments', has been locked in a long legal fight for vacant possession with the current leaseholder Patrick Burke and manager Vince Power.

The legal tussle – which Mr Archer revealed has cost more than £600,000 – seemed to have ended in July when a judge ruled in his favour.

Mr Archer, who wants to keep The KPH open as a pub, said he was confident of winning the case and that he planned to start redecorating and putting in a new management team next month.

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NEWS FROM KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA

Stables seek celebrity support

THE owner of the Westway stables is appealing to top stars – including One Direction's Harry Styles – for help to find new premises for her 22 homeless horses.

Desperate Sarah Tuvey is also turning to rock star Paul Weller and David and Victoria Beckham – whose children have ridden the ponies at the West London Stables which are being forced by The Westway Trust to shut down after 25 years.

Sarah, whose lease has been scrapped by the Trust, is pleading for help from Harry Styles, who supported Sarah by posting an Instagram picture of her walking with a pony on a protest march against the imposed closure – and which was re-posted by more than one million of the singer's fans.

"I've got to find a new place for the horses and I'm desperate for any help," said Sarah.

"A horse sanctuary had offered to take the horses but now that lifeline has fallen through.

"I need to raise the profile of the stables and try to find the horses a new home, so I am having to turn to the stars for support.

"I'm not after anyone's money because I'm not the sort of person who would ask for that, I'm just asking Harry Styles if he could very kindly keep his support going by making people aware that the horses need a new home. His support could change everything as the exposure could help us find a new place.

"I don't usually go to people asking for favours because it's not nice, but I'm now in a very tricky situation as I can't beat The Westway Trust.

"Paul Weller's children used to ride with me, so I am trying to get in touch with his office too and I'm also appealing to the Beckhams as their children also used to come here."

Sarah said she owed the Trust £5,000 in rent arrears but she is struggling to find repayments because horse riders are not booking sessions as they believe the stables are already closed – which they are not yet.

"My income flow has got really bad because people think we're shut already, but we're not and the Trust has said I can stay until January if I can pay them £10 a day until I leave."

Anyone who can help Sarah find land for new stables is asked to contact her at *www.westlondonstables.co.uk* or call 0208 964 2140.

Council spots benefit fraudsters

NINETEEN fraudulent claims for housing and council tax benefit have been rejected by Kensington & Chelsea Borough Council's benefit team since January, saving the taxpayer approximately £190,000 a year.

The bogus claims were uncovered thanks to rigorous checks on all applications that include verification calls, an insistence on original documentation and in many cases, face-to-face interviews.

Among the benefit scams uncovered by the council were:

- undeclared bank accounts
- claiming to have no income whilst in work
- fictitious rent liabilities while in fact living rent free
- European nationals falsely claiming to be in employment in order to qualify for housing benefit

Fraudulent claims are always referred to the Government's Single Fraud Investigation Service for further action and prosecutions for attempting to defraud the Royal Borough are common.

However, the great majority of benefit claims are perfectly genuine and the council's benefit team manages to be one of the country's quickest payers without sacrificing the levels of scrutiny necessary to protect the taxpayer.

Over the last year for example, Kensington and Chelsea had the fastest turnaround times in London and processed claims at more than double the average national speed.





NEWS FROM NICK ...

with Nicholas Paget-Brown, Leader of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea

Back to work – and tough fiscal decisions

THOUGH the council is at work 365 days a year, its decision-making machinery goes into something like hibernation over the summer. But come September it's back to work.

Sadly, that means no more mid-morning cornflakes in pyjamas for me. Instead it's on with a suit and back to the Town Hall and if I'm honest I'll admit to a bit of trepidation about it. The reason is simple – we've got a helluva lot on.

The first thing will be to attend the Notting Hill Carnival. Our officers and waste contractors put in an almighty shift trying to make the event safe and successful. The least I can do is go up there and let them know their efforts are hugely appreciated.

> **'Austerity is no excuse to abandon aspiration'**

After that it will be back to the normal business of the council. Almost immediately conversations will get under way about the shape of our budget for 2016-17. Each year, those conversations get a little more difficult and a little more painful. We will be going into our sixth year of austerity and will have to face up to some difficult decisions about where savings can be made.

But austerity is no excuse to abandon aspiration. Regular readers will know that we have promised to bring forward a new generation of housing for our older residents. Called "extra care", these housing schemes will offer homes for older people to rent lease or buy where care will be available on site which can scale up as people become older and frailer.

We have also promised to make a meaningful contribution to solving the housing crisis by adding hundreds of new homes to our housing stock. We also need to expand and renew many of our primary schools and we already have schemes getting underway at Marlborough, Barlby, Fox and Colville primary schools. And of course there is the hot topic of a Crossrail 2 station in Chelsea, a proposal which has stirred up protest but which still enjoys the support of the council, but not perhaps some local celebrities.

Now, important as their views are, we have to look beyond the disruption of the construction process and to what this station would mean for the next 50 years. It's a topic I'll no doubt be returning to in the months ahead.

So as you can see it's something of a packed agenda. I hope to be able to make announcements about it all of this over the coming weeks and months.

THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA

To contact the Leader of the Council, Cllr Nick Paget-Brown, email theleader@rbkc.gov.uk

Rescued – cat dumped on a train

HORRIFIED staff at Battersea Dogs & Cats Home have appealed for more care by pet owners after a ginger tabby was cruelly dumped in a plastic bag on a train and left to be thrown away with the rubbish.

The four-year-old cat, named Donald by new carers at Battersea was brought to the rescue centre after he was found bagged-up on a train heading towards Victoria Station.

"Scared and alone, this vulnerable and nervous cat was brought in by the train driver who found him on one of his carriages," said a Battersea spokeswoman. "Sadly, we have taken in over 600 stray cats since January and have seen a 20% increase in the number of cat and kitten admissions coming in this summer."

Battersea's Cattery Team Leader, SuiLi Weight, said: "Donald is just one of the many stray cats we've seen this summer who are sadly left to fend for themselves after being abandoned. Among the sad stories we've also seen cats dumped in London taxis and an awful incident where 11-week-old kittens were found in woods sealed-up in a bag. The summer months are always busy for us as we are hit with 'kitten season' but we've definitely seen a real increase in admissions this year combined with a particularly lengthy lull in re-homing as a lot of people are away for the summer holidays.



■ **SAVED: Donald the ginger tabby had been abandoned.**

"With lots of attention from the charity's staff and volunteers Donald is now recovering at the Home, slowly gaining confidence and learning to trust people again. We're helping to create a brighter future for these poor felines here at Battersea and we really hope Donald's story has a positive ending."

If you think you can give an abandoned moggie the home they deserve, please contact 0843 509 4444 or visit *battersea.org.uk*

LWN NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER & PIMLICO edit@londonweeklynews.co.uk

College leads the learning curve



■ THINGS ARE LOOKING UP: DLD College London bursar Alec Thorp is overseeing the relocation project.

THE grand opening of the purpose-built landmark college, DLD College London, which sits right at the heart of the City of Westminster, is taking place today. (September 3).

The prestigious college, which used to have two campuses, one in Marylebone and one in Belgravia, combined and relocated to the impressive, larger Westminster location in time for the new academic year.

The brand new state-of-the-art facility and 15-floor boarding house will be unveiled to the public at 5pm with a media event, official opening ceremony and a behind-the-scenes tour, which will enable guests to discover what the integral on-site accommodation for students is like.

The new premises boast exceptional purpose-built educational facilities in the basement and on the ground, mezzanine, first and second floors. These include six high specification laboratories, a creative arts and media faculty featuring art rooms, photography, drama, music and media suites, including a 100-plus seat theatre, almost 40 tutorial rooms and an open-plan library, study and ICT facilities.

The Westminster Bridge Road college is next to Waterloo Station and overlooks Westminster and the River Thames, with stunning views of The Shard, The Gherkin and St Paul's Cathedral on the skyline to the east.

The contemporary en-suite accommodation sits above the main college with 200 fully equipped and secure rooms divided by gender and age. All students and staff have access to the refectory for breakfast, lunch and dinner. This is also a multi-functional space for eating, studying and socializing, with access to a Starbucks cafe.

DLD College London has a diverse subject offering, with a wide range of choices, which college bosses say ensures every individual student's needs are met. For the 2015-2016 intake there will be 34 different A-level subjects, a range of GCSE subjects and three BTEC pathways.

The college is academically non-selective and achieved a 98 per cent A-level pass rate in 2015, with the percentage of students receiving A*-C grades at 81 per cent.



■ PRESTIGIOUS LOCATION: DLD College London's new home.

Students are said to be drawn to DLD College London for many things but the college says one important attraction is the strong reputation of the tutors. They are all graduate specialists, some being text book authors or examiners – and a high proportion are Oxbridge educated and holders of postgraduate degrees.

The building has been a source of education from its beginning as 46 apprentices will have been trained on site once the finishing touches are made. Over two million man hours have gone into the building work, with 600 people on site per day. The 32,000 square metre steel and glass structure – a glistening, crystalline landmark office building – is using the most innovative techniques to ensure it is a highly energy efficient building and it has been from day one. Some 99 per cent of waste from the site has been recycled and diverted from landfill and 750,000 cubic metres of water has been stored in the basement for the cold water and sprinklers.

The 3,000 panels which make up the curves were made in Slovenia, painted in Austria and curved in Germany, before being transported to England, so even the surface of the building is cultured. The double-skin, glass façade enables the building to conform to the latest sustainability standards. It will incorporate renewable power sources to minimise energy consumption, through the use of proven technologies, both in construction and operational performance.

The Westminster Bridge Road landmark has 1,700 tonnes of structural steel, 20 miles of underfloor heating pipe buried away, nine miles of piles holding up the building, 3,000 miles of copper pipe running through, 20,000 lights and 200 air condition fan coil units in the college, ensuring it is a sturdy structure which will stand proud in Westminster for centuries to come.

Founded in 1931, DLD College London is one of the oldest and most prestigious colleges in the UK, and since its foundation has built a strong reputation amongst students, parents, schools and universities.

As part of the Alpha Plus Group, DLD College aims to maintain a "gold standard" of educational quality. Classes are small, enabling students and teachers to focus upon the most effective ways of learning.

The college will offer superb, modern teaching accommodation and resources in the brand new, purpose-built premises in the heart of London overlooking Wes tminster across the River Thames with stunning views of The Shard, The Gherkin and St Paul's Cathedral on the skyline to the East.

Council backs new businesses

WESTMINSTER City Council is playing its part in Small Business Advice Week with a raft of initiatives to support enterprise in the borough.

A council spokesman said: "There is a lot on offer to support your entrepreneurial aspirations and help grow your small business.

"Being in one of the most competitive, business-driven areas in the UK, small businesses are vital in growing the economy and creating jobs in our city.

"To help small business in Westminster, we have everything from networking events and business workshops, to free access to market insight and information on funding and grant opportunities. We also have co-working spaces where those in the early stages of the business can use desks and meeting rooms and collaborate and share ideas.

"Our Business Information Points provide advice on how to create a business plan, financing a business and access key databases. Watch a clip from the BBC and see how successful Westminster entrepreneur Ben Reynolds used the BIPs to start and grow his business. Trial your business or meet other like-minded people at one of our co-working spaces or incubator hubs.

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READERS' LETTERS

Page that proves paper's value

IT was good to see the recent return of the letters, as a good letters page is a normal indicator of people engaging with their local paper.

Also, congratulations on publicising the successful outcome of the Care Quality Commission inspection of the Victoria Medical Centre – and congratulations to all working there on this success, said by CQC to be outstanding.

More distant in time was a letter asking why the leader of the Kensington and Chelsea Council was being given what the writer of that letter evidently regarded a weekly column of little more than political propaganda. However, my question is this: is the leader of Westminster City Council not being given space in the Westminster and Pimlico version of your local series?

Something that was of interest to me personally was the recent *News from Nick* column in which Nicholas Paget-Brown protests at the closure of post offices. We all too often hear about the inconvenience to the public when facilities are temporarily closed because of industrial action but very rarely do we hear about those facilities closed by management decisions and scarcer still are Conservative protests about them. These in recent times have included police stations, fire stations, hospitals, post offices, banks, Tufnell Park tube station (pending), etc.

The particular point here is that these facilities, when closed, is permanent and not a temporary closure – and that this results from management not union decisions. Even if other temporary inconveniences are looked at, all over London there is disruption due to the Cycle Super Highway(s).

To the intended permanent closure of one tube station can be added those of a temporary nature on a portion of the Victoria Line itself, adding to what included the Victoria plus Pimlico stations on the same line not too long ago. Moreover, what about the massive disruption due to what is happening at London Bridge station currently? Again, this results from decisions that have nothing to do with unions and provide more than just mere inconvenience.

At the same time when we hear of "holding the country to ransom", perhaps leading Conservatives may want to be seen on television condemning companies threatening to leave the UK because of this or that government policy (as was recently reported following the Osborne announcement of the coming enforcement of the "living wage"). Is this not also to be deemed as holding the nation to ransom?

Harry Bourne
Westminster, London SW1



■ **MEDICS MERIT ACCOLADE: Reader Harry Bourne echoes the praise given to staff at Victoria Medical Centre, inset.**

Time to salute autism heroes

THE National Autistic Society is looking for local autism heroes.

We want people on the autism spectrum, their friends, families and carers to nominate the individuals and services that have made a difference to their lives for the Autism Professionals Awards 2016. We'd also like to hear from local professionals, such as teachers and psychologists, about good autism practice. The awards are the one time the autism community gets together each year to recognise their achievements and share best practice.

Perhaps you know a passionate volunteer or a social worker who has gone out of their way to support an autistic adult to improve their social skills? Or maybe there's a teacher or teaching assistant who has developed innovative ways to give your child the best possible start in life?

Whatever your story, please share it with us. You can find out more about the awards or nominate an individual or service by visitingthis website: *www.autismprofessionalsawards.co.uk*

The deadline for nominations is October 30.

Carol Povey
Director of the National Autistic Society's Centre for Autism

Crossrail plan an irrelevance

Copy of a letter sent to the Chairman of The Chelsea Society

THE Crossrail in Chelsea plan is absurd. We neither want it or need it.

I am astonished The Chelsea Society backs this monstrous idea as it is completely against the aims and objectives of the society. I wonder how you have the cheek to stand as chair if this is the kind of thing you will be consenting to. This development is a ploy to play to the world stage, to tempt more rich people from abroad who will have no stake in the community. They will buy up the property, leave it empty and meanwhile fill up the coffers of the greedy property developers.

The artistic heritage and character of Chelsea will be forever lost.

May I suggest that you tell them to "go and play trains somewhere else" or that you should resign.

Rosie Harper
Member of the Chelsea Society
By email

Station would alter Chelsea

THE proposal that there might be a station for this line built in King's Road is one that ignores the investment return on the suggested cost of £1billion.

As Chelsea is already served by two tube stations, Sloane Square and South Kensington, and the area has very adequate bus services, what would be the return on the investment?

This is a question that Transport for London should be asked to answer.

The result of the investment would be to completely change the nature of Chelsea. If that is TfL's objective one must question whether TfL is entitled to undertake works to achieve such an objective. One would expect that its objective should be to provide suitable and adequate transport services.

As Chelsea is already provided with such services TfL would be wasting its money. Possibly such money could be put to better use.

One of the changes that a station would create is a change in the nature of the residents of Chelsea. Such a change would also produce a change on the use of the buildings in Chelsea. Bed sitting rooms would become much more in demand and would as a consequence be created in many buildings.

As a result of such a change the services provided by retailers would also change, with the consequent change in the use of retail floor space.

The physical requirements of the station would be an important change to King's Road, as would the number of persons who would use the station. Both are very relevant considerations. They also would change the nature of Chelsea. One questions for what benefit to Chelsea.

Patrick Vaughan
By email



■ **OFF-TRACK? Plans for a Crossrail 2 station in the King's Road are under fire.**

Start now to beat dementia

DEMENTIA research published in *The Lancet* recently suggests that 'attention to optimum health early in life might benefit cognitive health late in life'.

Inactivity is a risk factor for dementia, yet walking to school or work is a simple way to build more activity into our everyday routines. Walking is good for mental health as well as physical health, and making one small change to our day can have a huge impact on our lives.

Living Streets organises the nationwide Walk to School and Walk to Work weeks, as well as the well-established National Walking Month in May. More advice, information and inspiration can be found at *www.livingstreets.org.uk.*

Tom Platt
Head of Research and Policy, Living Streets, Universal House, 88-94 Wentworth Street, London

Housing crisis: radical answer

IF you have tried to buy or even rent a property in this area, then I am sure you know how hard it is to find something you want and can afford.

The problem is easy to define – it's because there are not enough homes being built. But the solution is more complex. Development negotiations are taking too long, rules don't incentivise construction and land (often owned by transport for London, the Greater London Authority, the NHS or local councils) is not being made available.

If we are to solve this problem we need to be more ambitious.

If Londoners are to get the homes they need then we need to incentivise developers to build on land they own, open up public sector land for development and design homes local people want to live in, such as those championed by the organisation Create Streets.

We also need to look at new ways to buy a home, such as rent to buy, shared ownership schemes or community land trusts.

We need to listen to what developers, councils and your readers have to say in 2015 if we are to meet the demands of Londoners, who want a home of their own.

Syed Kamall
MEP for London

All unions seek is a fair wage

IT is not surprising that Greg Hands MP believed the ongoing tube strikes were unwarranted. ("MP condemns 'unwarranted' tube strikes", *London Weekly News*, August 20).

Yes, the tube strikes are inconveniencing millions of Londoners. However, all the unions are asking is that the Conservative Mayor pay them a fair wage for further increasing the unsociable hours they work.

Everyone thinks of highly paid drivers, but the strike is really about ensuring low-paid staff (cleaners, gate line attendants, station staff, etc.) are properly compensated.

How would your readers feel if their boss walked in one day and said: "I've had a bright idea: Our customers want us to be open all night. I won't make you work more hours. But instead of working from 9am to 5pm, you are now going to work from 9pm to 5am."

Would Mr Hands welcome such a change to his working hours? Or would he want to do something "unwarranted"?

Jon Burden
Hammersmith and Fulham Liberal Democrats, 82a Minford Gardens, London W14

Have your say

Share your views on the issues that matter to you – whether they affect your neighbourhood or belong to a wider debate for the whole of London. We welcome your opinions. Email us at *editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk*

LWN

LONDON WIDE



■ **CAPITAL STYLE: Featuring 27 designers from 16 countries, the London Collections runway show is set to stun fashion lovers when it lands at Devonshire Square for London Fashion Week. The production on September 12 will feature 193 looks and is part of the Oxford Fashion Studio season, which runs from September through to November and includes runway shows in New York, Paris, Oxford, Houston and Los Angeles. Oxford Fashion Studio, the creative team behind the venture, hope to put new and emerging designers at the forefront, as Tiffany Saunders, the Oxford Fashion Studio Creative Director, explained: "I'm really excited about the London Collections 2015. From graceful designs to theatrical pieces I believe design has no boundaries and no limits. My team and I have sourced designers from Europe and around the world who are wonderfully unique and whose creations are individually innovative, brilliant and creative. That is what we look for and that is what I look forward to featuring at the London Collections on 19th September at Devonshire Square." Designers featuring at the London Collections include Moon Lee, a former London College of Fashion student who's enjoyed much success in both the UK and South Korea, and Lillie Gregg, a Londoner known from the television show Geordie Shore.**

100 more police officers to keep Night Tube safe

● By **GEOFF BAKER**
geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

DESPITE sex attacks on trains and the Underground rising to record levels, police and Transport for London are promising the public: "The Night Tube ***WILL*** be safe".

The Met and British Transport Police are to "greatly increase" police presence, deploying more than 100 officers every night on the Night Tube – more than are now on Underground duty on a Friday night. Pairs of police will be on constant patrol in all areas of the stations and teams will also travel with passengers in carriages as London Underground acts to increase security to make the Night Tube safe.

Although the failure to make agreement with rail union on rotas and working conditions has now forced the launch of the all-night service back to the autumn, LU is pledging that when it comes it will be safe.

The 24-hour weekend service on the Jubilee, Victoria and most of the Piccadilly, Central and Northern lines was due to start on September 12th. But as Tube workers are still in dispute over Night Tube work, last week LU said it had deferred the introduction until later in the autumn to allow more time for talks with the unions.

LU says it is adding another 2,000 CCTV cameras to the 12,000 already operating in stations and staff are being given new security training in order to cut down on trouble on The Tube.

"We are committed to make sure that staff are there to provide that necessary safety and security reassurance to people as they travel around the network," said LU managing director Mike Brown.

Paul Crowther, Chief Constable of British Transport Police, added: "For anyone concerned about crime or anti-social behaviour there will also be the reassuring presence of British Transport Police. We are going to have more than 100 officers out at any one given time and that's more than we have out on a Friday night at 10 o'clock at the moment.

"All passengers and staff have a right to feel safe whatever the time of day or night."

However, as the 100 BTP officers will have to cover 144 stations that will be open through the night each weekend, dozens of extra BTP community support officers will also be deployed and emergency police support teams will be on 24-hour stand-by if needed.

The Met and LU are increasing security because although crime on the Underground has fallen overall for the ninth year running, figures for last year show a rise of almost 35% in sex attacks on London trains and the Tube and authorities are determined that the Night Tube does not become the Fright Tube.

The latest statistics for 2014-15 show that the number of violent crimes on the capital's trains and Underground also rose, with a 23 per cent increase in the number of assaults.

British Transport Police say the rise in sex offences was expected as it came after a major campaign to encourage victims of sexual assault to come forward. The increase follows the Project Guardian operation and a campaign called "Report It to Stop It" to increase people's confidence in reporting assaults.

But TfL says that overall passengers are safer than ever.

"Crime on London's transport network is at a record low rate after falling by 8.3 per cent in 2014/15 compared to last year with 2,502 fewer offences and the rate of crime down to seven offences per million passenger journeys," said a TfL spokesman.

"On the London Underground and Docklands Light Railway (DLR) network, crime has fallen by a further 12.4 per cent – the ninth consecutive year of reduced crime.

"Despite the low levels of crime across London's transport network as a whole, increases were recorded in certain crime types on some parts of the network. Reported sexual offences have risen by 34.7% across the network which can be attributed to TfL, BTP and the Metropolitan Police Services' Project Guardian initiative, which has raised public awareness of unwanted sexual behaviour and encourages victims to report these historically underreported crimes."

Where To Find Your Local Favourite Free Newspaper

London Weekly News pick up points

Sainsbury's Store	Melbourne Avenue	West Ealing	W13 9BZ
Tesco Metro	94 Church Street	Paddington	NW8 8EX
Tesco Classic Metro	17-25 Regent Street	London	SW1Y 4LR
Sainsbury's Store	38 Stratton Street	Mayfair	W1J 8LT
Sainsbury's Store	15-17 Tottenham Court Road	Central London	W1T 1BJ
Co-op	504-506 Harrow Road	Paddington	W9 3QA
Tesco Classic Metro	22-25 Bedford Street	London	WC2E 9ED
Co-op	Golden Cross House	London	WC2R 0RG
Notting Hill Gate Library	1 Pembridge Square	Notting Hill	W2 4EW
Kensal Library	20 Golborne Road		W10 5PF

Westminster & Pimlico NEWS pick up points

Sainsbury's Store	99 Wilton Road	Pimlico	SW1V 1DT
Co-op	104-105 Berwick Street	Soho	W1F 0QS
Tesco Metro	18-28 Warwick Way	Westminster	SW1V 1RX
Tesco Classic Metro	Dean Street	London	W1D 3RS
Tesco Classic Metro	10-16 Goodge Street	London	W1T 2QB
Tesco Metro	90-100 Edgware Road	Westminster	W2 2EA
Co-op	19-21 Store Street	Westminster	WC1E 7DB
Coach & Horses Pub	23 Greek Street	Soho	W1D 5DH
Pimlico Library	Lupus Street	Pimlico	SW1V 3EY

Kensington & Chelsea NEWS pick up points

Co-op	210-212 Earls Court Road	Kensington	SW5 9QB
Sainsbury's Store	158a Cromwell Road	Kensington	SW7 4EJ
Tesco Metro	146-148 High Street	Kensington	W8 6SU
Sainsbury's Store	Ladbroke Grove	London	W10 5AA
Tesco Metro	224-226 Portobello Rd	Notting Hill	W11 1LJ
Tesco Metro	114-120 Notting Hill Gate	Notting Hill	W11 3QE
Tesco Super Store	West Cromwell Road	Kensington	W14 8PB
Kensington Central Library	Phillimore Walk	Kensington	W8 7RX
North Kensington Library	108 Ladbroke Grove	Kensington	W11 1PZ
Brompton Library	210 Old Brompton Road	London	SW5 0BS
The Tabernacle, Notting Hill	35 Powis Square	Notting Hill	W11 2AY
Chelsea Library	Chelsea Old Town Hall	Chelsea	SW3 5EZ
Chelsea Sports Centre	Chelsea Manor Street	Chelsea	SW3 5PL

Fulham Chronicle pick up points

Sainsbury's Store	51 Townsmead Road	Fulham	SW6 2SY
Sainsbury's Store	Fulham Broadway Retail Centre	Fulham	SW6 1BW
Co-op	254 North End Road	London	SW6 1NJ
Co-op	314 Lillie Road	Fulham	SW6 7PS
Co-op	60 Parsons Green Lane	Fulham	SW6 4HU
Sainsbury's Store	2-3 Kings Mall	Kings Mall	W6 0PZ
Fulham Library	598 Fulham Road		SW6 5NX
Tesco Super Store	180 Shepherds Bush Road	London	W6 7NL
The Grove Neighbourhood Centre	7 Bradmore Park	Hammersmith	W6 0DT
Morrisons	114-116 Shepherds Bush Centre	London	W12 8PP

LWN

NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER & PIMLICO

City school celebrates excellent GCSE results

WESTMINSTER City School is celebrating another year of excellent GCSE exam results with 73 per cent of grades between A* - C, including English and maths.

The school says these results confirm it is performing way above the national average for boys (last year was 51 per cent A*-C including English and maths) and are on track to be one of the best boys 'schools in the country.

Commenting on the GCSE results, James Wilson, headmaster at the all-boys' school in central London said: "We are celebrating another fantastic year of GCSE results. The boys have worked exceptionally hard this year and reaped the rewards with some excellent results."

The breakdown of Westminster City School's GCSE results is as follows: 73% A*- C (including English & Maths); 26% A*- A; 23% Ebacc.

Subject Grades A*- C: English 82%; Maths 83%; Further Maths 98%; Core Science 94%; Additional Science 94%; Further Additional Science 95%; Art 95; Geography 76%; RS 73%; History 70%.

Noteable achievements included: Karim Mahiddine 12 A*-A, 13 GCSE's in total; James Hawke 11 A*-A, 12 GCSE's in total; Intersar Nur 11 A*-A, 12 GCSE's in total; David Rushton 11 A*-A, 12 GCSE's in total; Samuel Modu-Garcia 11 A*-A, 12 GCSE's in tota; Asef Mahdi Shah 11 A*-A, 11 GCSE's in tota; Ahmed Al-safi 10 A*-A, 13 GCSE's in total; Samson Lawal 10 A*-A, 12 GCSE's in total; Hasan Ahmad 9 A*-A, 12 GCSE's in total; Faisal Ahmed 9 A*-A, 13 GCSE's in total; Ewan Marmo-Bissell 9 A*-A, 12 GCSE's in total; Faaruq Mansaray 9 A*-A, 11 GCSE's in total; Joseph Okyere 8 A*-A, 11 GCSE's in total; Murtaza Afridi 8 A*-A, 10 GCSE's in total; Louise Cursan 8 A*-A, 10 GCSE's in total.



Speaking about the new system for measuring schools performance which under government reforms means only a pupil's first result in a subject now counts towards a school's results. (http://www.theguardian.com/education/2014/may/22/students-gcses-early-number-falls-ofqual), Mr Wilson (pictured) said: "Our curriculum, which Ofsted say is outstanding, allows the most able boys to fast track through Key Stage 4 and sit their exams at the end of Year 10. Many of these talented boys have gained amazing results as a consequence."

Mr Wilson continued: "We believe our boys should be able to sit exams early if they are bright enough and ready to do so. Their future is far more important than government performance measures."

Year 10 fast track pupils

Year 10 boys who sat their GCSE exams early have also been congratulated. The school said the outcomes were extremely good and a testament to the hard work put in by pupils and staff. Several boys achieved multiple A*/A grades.

These included: Arb Xhameni 9 A*-; Glen Hoti 9 A*-; Iftikar Ali 8 A*-Dren Dedinca 7 A*-A; Elijah Duma 6 A*-A; Mark Mataac 7 A*-A; Haris Nsubuga 8 A*-A; Muhammod Choudhury 5 A*-A; Renato Rodrigues 5 A*-A; Bill Vu 4 A*-A; Andi Alku 4 A*-A

Many of these boys will now be entering the sixth form a year early in September to begin studying at A Level. This head start will give these pupils the best chance of achieving A* grades at A Level enabling them to gain places at top universities such as Oxford, Cambridge and other Russell Group universities.

Westminster City School is an all boys secondary school in the heart of London. Its pupils come from across the greater london area and are from all academic abilities and cultural backgrounds. The school is part of a successful foundation which supports a Christian ethos.

◆ For more information please call James O'Leary on 020 7963 6300

Working to get city people in jobs

OVER the next five years Westminster City Council will be working with seven other central London councils to help almost 4,000 unemployed people find sustainable work across central London.

This new programme, the first of its kind, uses £11.5m of Government funding to deliver integrated, tailored services in the community.

In Westminster, the Working Capital programme will work with 400 people who currently claim Employment and Support Allowance to provide tailored, individual support to help place them into work.

Integrating the new service into the community and existing services, such as health services, debt advice and housing support, means the council will identify and support eligible residents through dedicated caseworkers to help them overcome their individual barriers to getting into work.

Along with a range of other employment support initiatives, Working Capital forms a key part of the council's ambition to reduce the number of long-term unemployed in Westminster by a third in the next three years.

A fun way to tackle elderly being lonely

WESTMINSTER residents can celebrate the fourth Silver Sunday by taking part in a packed schedule of 32 free events and activities across the city.

The day - on Sunday, October 4th - aims to highlight the issue of loneliness amongst older people whilst providing a practical way for people aged 65 plus to try something new and meet new people.

Highlights of the Westminster schedule include a tour of Lord's cricket ground, A Mad Hatter's Tea Party at the Hyatt Regency, a performance from the Pink Champagne Sisters at St James Theatre, ballet sessions with English National Ballet and the Royal Academy of Dance and scam awareness workshops with NatWest.

There are also lots of opportunities to get active and try out new activities with Tai Chi, swimming lessons, circuits and tennis lessons at leisure centres and taster sessions of free and low cost events available all-year round at Westminster Community Hubs and libraries.

Silver Sunday is a national day for older people, held on the first Sunday of October. So far 107 events are confirmed across the country including a bake off in Havering, a murder mystery in Hove and a variety show in Whitburn, West Lothian.

It was launched in 2012 by Cllr Christabel Flight, Lord Mayor of Westminster and Older People's Champion to help overcome loneliness. It helps people aged 65 and over, and their carers, to try new things and meet new people with the aim of raising awareness of the services available to them all year round. Local businesses and community organisations donate their time to host free events and activities to help older people try something new. Silver Sunday is supported by the Sir Simon Milton Foundation.

The Lord Mayor of Westminster, Cllr Christabel Flight, founder of Silver Sunday, said: "Silver Sunday is a fun way to tackle an important issue. We want to overcome the stigma around admitting you are lonely by providing a way for people to get together and try new things whilst finding out about the services and activities that are available year-round. If you have a relative or neighbour who could benefit from Silver Sunday please do bring them along."



■ **JOINT FOUNDER: Cll Christobel Flight, Lord Mayor of Westminster, helped to launch Silver Sunday.**

Silver Sunday supporter, Angela Rippon, said: "Who cares what it says on your birth certificate - it's how you feel about yourself that matters. We all have just one life to live. Make sure you live it to the full."

Diana Moran, former Green Goddess and TV presenter, said: "Silver Sunday is a day not to ignore older people, but celebrate and remember the important role that they play in our society. Older people are often undervalued by society and by getting involved in events such as Silver Sunday we can help to tackle loneliness."

Silver Sunday bookings for events and activities in Westminster open on Monday, September 7th. Details are available in Westminster Plus magazine or online at westminster.gov.uk/silver-sunday.

For details of Silver Sunday events taking place in Westminster please visit westminster.gov.uk/silver-sunday. For details of events taking place across the UK and to submit your own Silver Sunday event visitsilversunday.org.uk.

For more information about Silver Sunday and images please contact Claire Appleby at Westminster City Council on 020 7641 3388 or cappleby@westminster.gov.uk.

◆ Silver Sunday was launched in 2012 by The Sir Simon Milton Foundation and Councillor Christabel Flight, Lord Mayor of Westminster and Older People's Champion. It was set up to raise awareness of and to help to overcome loneliness amongst older people through community interaction.

In 2013, the initiative went national and saw over 180 events take place across the country in support of Silver Sunday. It is now a regular fixture in the events calendar taking place on the first Sunday of every October.

For more information on the Sir Simon Milton Foundation, please visit sirsimonmiltonfoundation.com.



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NEWS FROM WESTWAY TRUST

UNDER THE WESTWAY

Celebrating the community in carnival season

Angela McConville, Chief Executive of Westway Trust, pays tribute to the important role the community has in making carnival season a sensational spectacle for all.

LAST weekend we witnessed another sensational carnival extravaganza with the Notting Hill Carnival strutting its stuff on our streets.

As it does every year, the area around the Westway comes alive with music, performance, dance and energy. It really is a sight to behold and one which local people are rightly very proud of.

But, what sometimes gets overlooked is the role that local people play in putting on and promoting the carnival, as the excitement and drama of carnival takes off.

Westway Trust has a long relationship with carnival. We are not involved in the running or organising of Notting Hill Carnival. Our role is, and has always been, as an enabler of local people's involvement. We enabled local people to set up Carnival in the early 1970's – Ebony Steel Band was based on Acklam Village - and today we enable people to celebrate carnival they way they want away from the mass crowds and international media microscope with Carnival Pioneers, led by the charismatic Les Palmer.

In the early 1970s Westway Trust provided the Notting Hill Carnival committee with office space and the use of the undeveloped land beneath the Westway flyover. The creation of the organising committee was important in itself, as Carnival is still run by an independent committee today.

With these resources, the committee was able to mobilise local people to expand and improve the Carnival. Sound systems were used for the first time in 1973, and the international food and colourful costumes that today make Carnival so iconic were central features of the original blueprint. Soul/reggae bands played live on street corners, which led to the idea of the Live Stages in later years.

Westway Trust continued to support the Carnival throughout the 1980s and 90s. 2013 marked a further milestone in our involvement as, for the first time in at least a decade, Portobello Green was opened up to the Carnival.

'Carnival 1973 Remembered', a celebration of the original Notting Hill participants and local people's involvement, also took place in 2013 on Portobello Green, a staging area used in previous carnivals. The focus was very much on local interests, cultures and talent.

It was from this memorable occasion that Carnival Pioneers was born. The Carnival Pioneers Community Day, part funded and supported by Westway Trust, brings together local people and some of the original Notting Hill Carnival pioneers to showcase local people's involvement and culture.



This year's theme was 'Founding Mothers' - remembering the women pioneers who initiated Notting Hill Carnival including Rhaune Laslett, Merle Major, Claire Holder, Claudia Jones and Silma Faustine.

Events such as this take a huge amount of organisation, with the combined efforts of 65 performers and artistes, stewards, stall and attraction holders, and volunteers making it happen so that 1,200 people could watch, enjoy and celebrate. Carnival Pioneers really does exemplify the origins and soul of carnival in Notting Hill.

Westway Trust also supports an event which nurtures the next generation of Carnival enthusiasts. In early August, hundreds of local children had a great time at Notting Hill Nurseries Carnival, which was organised by CAPCA – the Children and Parents Carnival Association. They've been doing a great job of this for 30 years now. In fact, many of the children who attended the early Nurseries Carnivals now bring their own children to enjoy the fun, which is wonderful to see!

Carnival is a fundamental part of the identity, culture and DNA of the area. Its enduring spirit is part of daily life in Westway, whether its carnival season or not. It helps shape how the Westway area evolves.

We are proud to enable and support, in a very small way, the work of others to bring opportunities of celebration and creativity to the community. It's one of the reasons why we created Westway Presents…. This is our series of events, festivals and workshops which we deliver in partnership with local artists and cultural institutions in the borough.

2016 will be big year for carnival locally, marking the 50th anniversary of the very first carnival. We will be there, supporting the makers, performers, musicians, creators and leaders of carnival in any way we can to make sure the community has an occasion feel proud and honour its important heritage.

Gridlock costs us 100 hours a year

BY GEOFF BAKER
geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

LONDONERS are now wasting almost 100 hours a year stuck in traffic as the city has been damned as the most congested in Europe.

A report by the transport agency Inrix has named London as the most traffic-jammed city and says the congestion is costing the capital £7.6 billion a year in lost revenue.

And experts say standstill London is going to get worse - Transport for London is predicting an eight per cent growth in traffic coming into the capital from the East between 2012 and 2021.

The key findings of the Inrix report are:

■ London is now the most congested city in Europe, having overtaken Brussels to claim the top spot in the congestion rankings for the first time

■ The average London driver spent an average of 96 hours stuck in traffic jams in 2014, representing an increase of 14 hours on the year before that.

■ Congestion is set to cost London's economy £130 billion between 2013 and 2030

■ The five most gridlocked roads in the UK are all located in the capital.

The capital's constant traffic jams have been slammed as "a catastrophe" by London Assembly Green Party member Darren Johnson.

"London faces a future blighted by congestion and pollution if Mayor Boris Johnson carries on signing off trunk road schemes and scrapping vital limits to car parking in our city", he said.

"It is within the Mayor's power to change his policies and stop the tide of traffic that threatens to engulf London, bringing it to a standstill with terrible consequences for the environment and the economy.

"The traffic jams we are going to see in the years to come will have hugely negative impact on the city's status as a good place to live and do business."

"Expanding the bus network, making fares cheaper, keeping a lid on parking and providing better cycling facilities are just some of the measures he can and must take to stop this catastrophe."

Scheme to make lorries safer in London

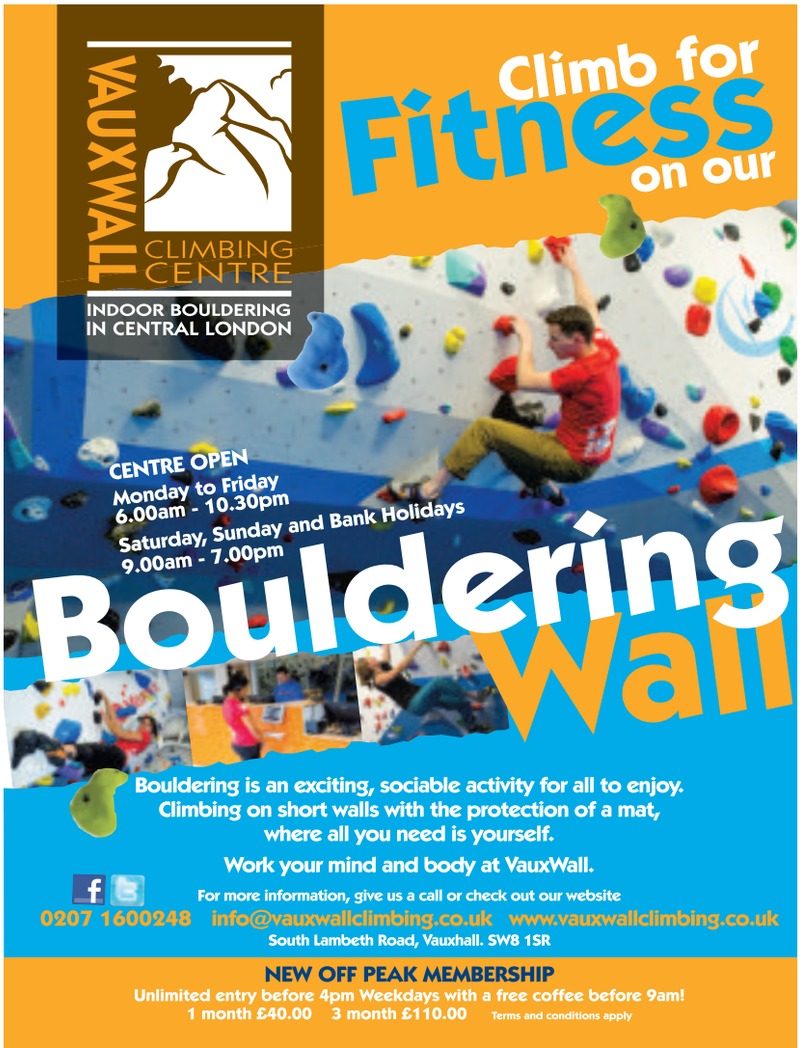
THE Safer Lorry Scheme started in London on September 1.

All roads in Greater London (except motorways) are covered by the scheme, which will require vehicles of more than 3.5 tonnes to be fitted with sideguards, as well as additional safety mirrors.

The scheme will operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and will be enforced by the police and the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency. Some 600 regulatory signs have been installed on the boundaries of the initiative.

There will be no exemption for vehicles that require the fitting of either sideguards or additional mirrors that have not done so. It is expected that all vehicles entering and working in London will be compliant with the traffic orders, or run the risk of a maximum £1,000 fine. Therefore if applicable, it is important that all vehicles within a firm's own fleet, and within the fleet of any of its contractors, are compliant by the commencement date.

Full details of the scheme can be seen at the following location: tfl.gov.uk/info-for/freight/safer-lorry-scheme



LWN

LONDON WIDE

Famous faces under the bridge

NIGHTCLUB Under the Bridge has confirmed a broad run of shows this autumn that will see a string of high profile acts descend on West London.

These will include a 45th anniversary show from Curved Air, two London Jazz Festival gigs by Maceo Parker, chart-storming Russian pop band Therr Maitz, Latvian indie-poppers Brainstorm, slide guitarist Sonny Landreth and multi-million-selling 70s outfit The Blackbyrds.

■ Curved Air 45th Anniversary Show, Friday September 4th (£18) – Curved Air perform their seminal debut album Air Conditioning in its entirety for the very first time. The group, which celebrates its 45th anniversary this year, is still fronted by Sonja Kristina and features original drummer Florian Pilkington-Miksa.

■ Terri Walker – Sunday September 6th (£20) – Terri Walker' Mercury-nominated debut album, which featured a string of guests including Mos Def, was released to widespread critical acclaim in 2003. The following two albums Love and I Am established Terri as one of the finest soul voices of her generation. Terri went onto collaborate with Nas, Cee-Lo, Jennifer Hudson, Salaam Remi & Ski Beatz and was part of Damon Albarn's 'Africa Express' project. Walker recently released a new solo album Entitled, which was released in March.

■ Tom Mann, Saturday September 12th (£8 GA / £20 VIP) – Singer-songwriter Tom Mann, well known to many thanks to his appearances in last year's X Factor, launches his new EP In the Blink Of An Eye.

■ Therr Maitz, October 15th (£25) – Blowing up dancefloors across Russia, Moscow's Therr Maitz have become one of the country's most successful electronic pop acts in years. Having performed at every major festival, concert hall and arena across Russia, this is their UK debut, and caps a remarkable year for the band in which they became the first group to top the iTunes chart with 3 songs at the same time, and founder Anton Belyaev was nominated for GQ Russia's Person of the Year 2015.

■ Sonny Landreth, Monday October 26th (£22) – The inimitable slide guitarist performs tracks from his recently released album Bound By The Blues.

■ Maceo Parker, Friday 13th and Saturday 14th November (£26) – Arguably the world's greatest funk saxophonist, Parkermakes a welcome return to Under the Bridge as part of this year's EFG London Jazz Festival.

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■ **ENTERPRISE CULTURE: Pictured from left to right, Olayinka Jacob-Bonnick (judge), Daisy Boehm (judge John Lyon's Charity), Erik Lawson, Tricia Reyes Caffrey, Daniela Miguel, Lili Chantel Laurent, Mark Atkinson.**

Enterprising business talent rewarded

TWO innovative young entrepreneurs are looking forward to getting their business off the ground thanks to a much-needed kick-start from the Markets and Enterprise Launch Pad.

Tricia Reyes Caffrey and Lili Chantel Laurent beat off stiff competition to be announced winners of MELP 2015 after successfully pitching their business ideas to a panel of judges during an event at the Tabernacle, Notting Hill earlier this summer.

They will now each receive a six-month business start-up package: including a £2,000 start-up fund, free business advice, a stall on the world famous Portobello Road Market or a desk space in a business incubation hub.

Tricia hopes to make her business,



■ **GOING PLACES: Tricia Reyes Caffrey, right, and Lili Chantel Laurent, left, whose businesses have been given a welcome boost.**

The Jar Bar, one of the UK's leading healthy food-to-go brands within the next five years for working professionals, while Lili plans to promote self-love, awareness and acceptance of curls, kinks and coils through her textured hair care brand, Lylli.

Speaking after her win, Lili said: "The MELP project was a great experience and really helped me to understand my business as a whole."

Tricia said she was thrilled to receive the business start-up package to help her realise her dream.

The other finalists were Erik Lawson, who was pitching his idea to create a gaming joystick for phones, and Daniela Miguel, who hoped to use her party service, R&T Entertainment, to help tackle unemployment by giving work to young people, especially young mothers, when available.

Now in its fifth year, MELP is a tri-borough project aimed at young people aged between 18 and 25, who are thinking of starting their own business.

It's organised by the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, Hammersmith and Fulham Council and Westminster City Council and is funded by John Lyon's Charity.

During the three-week programme, this year's candidates had the opportunity to work with and be guided by contributors including Mark Atkinson, Portobello Road Markets Team and The Olive Man (Market Trader); Anurah Farrell, Young Entrepreneur MD Pharrell Group; Barclays Bank; Simon Hardy, Founder People of Portobello; British Library Business and IP Centre and Olayinka Jacobs-Bonnick, from the Dalgarno Trust.

Parks celebrate harvest

TO celebrate this year's food growing in the Royal Parks, free harvest festivals will be held this month in Kensington Gardens, Greenwich Park and The Regent's Park.

A harvest festival is a global tradition that occurs around the time of the main harvest of a given region. In Britain this typically occurs in September, and the festival is usually held on a Sunday.

The Royal Parks has a number of demonstrations allotments, which aim to educate and inspire the public to grow their own food irrespective of whether they have a garden, balcony or simply a window box.

Kensington Gardens' Harvest Festival will be held on Sunday, September 6, between 11am and 4pm. Bee demonstrations will be carried out by Brompton Apiary and visitors can participate in the harvesting process by digging up potatoes. Children's activities will include face painting, a story telling marquee and a mobile petting farm provided by Miller's Ark Animals. Complimentary hot and cold drinks will be provided throughout the day while stocks last.

Greenwich Park will host its inaugural harvest festival on Sunday, September 13, 11am to 4pm, in The Queen's Orchard, located in the north-eastern corner of the park. The orchard, previously a wildlife garden managed by Greenwich Council, was returned to The Royal Parks in 2013. With the help of the Friends of Greenwich Park and local volunteers, the orchard has been restored to a place for growing fruits and vegetables. Visitors to the festival can tour the orchard, take part in a potato dig, and enjoy bee demonstrations. Children's activities will include face painting, pond dipping and a special appearance from The Royal Parks' bear.

The third and final harvest festival will be held in The Regent's Park Allotment Garden on Sunday, September 20, between 11am and 5pm.

A chef will be on site to prepare free mini pizzas using fresh produce from the allotment and visitors can wash it down with homemade rhubarb and ginger squash. Children can make a paper pot and plant a seed in it, embark on a garden hunt, and learn how to identify different types of ladybirds.

An array of goodies will be available for a small donation including herb bath bombs, herb salts, potted plants, and pressed flower cards– all made using ingredients from the allotment.

Donations are reinvested into the allotment and used for essentials such as seeds and secateurs.

On all three days experts from The Royal Parks Guild – The Royal Parks alumni society – will be on hand to answer any questions about food growing.

Colin Buttery, Deputy Chief Executive for The Royal Parks said: "Our harvest festivals are a great day out for the whole family, providing a fun and educational way to find out more about the joy of growing your own food.

"Aside from saving money, growing your own crops provides access to fresh vegetables and fruits, free from chemical pesticides and fertilisers. It can also benefit the environment through a reduction of food waste, packaging and transportation."

Borough's homeless facing 'exile' in southern counties

LONDON'S most-expensive borough is suffering such a housing crisis that Kensington and Chelsea Council is now considering placing its homeless families miles away in the southern counties.

The stark news that the local authority has no choice but to ship out families to faraway towns comes as London Mayor hopeful Tessa Jowell has warned that homes in the borough have become so costly it would take the average local worker 42 years to save for a deposit.

In an exclusive interview, homes-starved Kensington and Chelsea Council has revealed that it has been forced to place more than 1,200 desperate families in temporary housing outside of the borough. Although the council finds homes for the majority of families in other boroughs all over London, the housing shortage means some are having to be re-homed in Essex and Hertfordshire. And the council – which is facing a shortfall bill of £1.2 million to house the homeless – has revealed that now it is looking at buying emergency housing "in the Southern Counties". These include Sussex, Hampshire and East Anglia.

Such is the lack of affordable properties in the super-rich borough that now 2,670 families are on the social housing list.

Ms Jowell, who is running to take over from London Mayor Boris Johnson next year, has calculated that buying a home in Kensington and Chelsea is now way beyond most people's wildest dreams. Taking the average house price in the borough as now costing £1,195,000 and the average local earnings as £40,984, Ms Jowell says it would take 41 years and seven months to save for a 10 per cent deposit – a shock increase of almost 10 years more saving than on figures for 2013.

She said: "We cannot go on like this – solving the housing crisis is the number one challenge facing this city – and it will be my top priority if I'm elected Mayor. We have to start building the homes we need, that's why on my first day in City Hall I'd establish Homes for Londoners to get London building again, starting on the Mayor's own land."

BY GEOFF BAKER
geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

The *London Weekly News* put a series of questions to the council:

Q: How many years has RBKC been placing homeless households outside the borough?

Council: "Placing people outside the borough is not uncommon in London. This is something we have had to do for many years as we have not been able to procure the number of homes we require in the borough."

Q: How many have been placed?

Council : "We currently have 1,850 households in temporary accommodation of which 1,234 are currently residing outside of the borough."

Q:Where have they been placed?

Council : "Broadly, people can be placed in all areas of London but predominantly north and east London. We do have some households placed in south London boroughs but far fewer numbers. We place households in as many as 20-25 London boroughs.

"We have 30 households placed out of London at present. We aim to place as close to London as possible but this is dictated by where we can secure properties. The majority of our out of London temporary accommodation is in Essex, but we also have households in Hertfordshire and Slough."

Q: Will the Council consider placing people beyond the Home Counties, e.g. Dorset or Wales?

Council : "The Council is looking to buy properties in Greater London and within the M25. We will also consider southern counties. As explained above we have had to find accommodation outside the borough for many years."

Q: Do you have feedback from families who have been placed outside the borough and who are happier to have been so placed?

Council : "We don't have this type of information."

Q: How much has it cost to date to re-house people on this programme?

Council : "For the sake of clarity we should point out that the allocation of £10m to buy properties outside the borough should not be confused with our ongoing spending on providing temporary accommodation for those we have a duty to house. The Council budgeted to spend around £27m on payments to landlords in 2015/16 of which most is recovered through charges and housing benefit. We budgeted to pick up the balance which is about £525,000 in 2015/16. But we are already incurring considerable pressure on this budget and our latest projection is that we will have to fund around £1.2m in 2015/16."

Q: How greatly has the re-housing budget been reduced in recent years?

Council : "The TA budget has not actually reduced, but is increasing reflecting the increases in costs arising, this increase is arising when overall Council budgets are reducing due to the loss of external funding."

Q: Are you expecting further reductions in this budget?

Council : "See above – we expect this budget to increase whilst the Council continues to lose external funding."

Q: Do you have any photographs comparing bed and breakfast accommodation in the borough with the new outside-borough homes?

Council : "Most of our B&Bs are either in borough or local to the borough. It is important to stress that families are not legally allowed to be in B&B for over six weeks so they have to be moved to self contained accommodation. The accommodation the Council plans to buy outside the borough will be of a high standard."

Q: What are the qualifications for those assessed as needing to be in the borough?

Council : "The Council has a duty to provide suitable, and affordable, temporary accommodation and does consider all applicants for local accommodation, but has to offer some households additional priority to ensure that those in the most need are prioritised. All cases are taken on their merits and consideration must be given to the number of available local properties. As a guide, additional priority for local temporary accommodation will be granted to the following applicants:

■ *Applicants with a severe and enduring health condition requiring intensive and enduring specialist medical treatment only available in Kensington and Chelsea.*

■ *Applicants who are in receipt of a significant care package and a range of healthcare options which cannot be transferred.*

■ *Applicants with a severe and enduring mental health problem who are receiving psychiatric treatment and aftercare provided by local community mental health services and have an established support network where a transfer of care would severely impact upon their ability to engage with treatment and care plans.*

"Applicant households meeting the criteria under the following three categories will be considered to have priority for a local temporary accommodation placement subject to verification from employers or service providers;

■ *Households containing a child or children with special educational needs who are receiving education or educational support at a local school in Kensington and Chelsea, or in a neighbouring borough and where a change to another school or learning establishment would be detrimental to their continuing development.*

■ *Households with children subject to a Child Protection Plan in Kensington and Chelsea or families who have high social needs who are linked into local support services and where it is verified that a transfer to another area could be detrimental to their welfare.*

■ *Applicants who are currently employed in Kensington and Chelsea and who have been continuously employed for at least six months and where financial assessment confirms the cost of travel would render accommodation in another area unaffordable. Each case will be assessed on an individual basis. Pregnant women who are on maternity leave but who intend to return to work at their place of employment in Kensington and Chelsea will also be considered under the criteria."*

Q: How many are on the social housing list?

Council : "As of August 1st, 2670."

Q: Are the numbers/demand for the social housing list rising?

Council : "2,677 in 2013-14, 2,509 in 2014-15, 2,670 in 2015-16. A new Allocations Policy was introduced in 2014 which excluded a number of households from the register so the figures do not reflect the true demand for those who want social housing, the register is now an indicator of how many are in priority for housing."

Pupils are best in the country

ROYAL Borough of Kensington and Chelsea pupils have achieved the best results in the country for Key Stage 2 (age 11) performance.

Provisional results, published on August 27 by the DfE, show that 90 per cent of children in Kensington and Chelsea schools achieved the expected Level 4+ in Key Stage 2 reading, writing and mathematics. This is ten percentage points above the national average and eight points above the average for London schools.

Kensington and Chelsea is also the top performing local authority for the proportion of children making expected progress from Key Stage 1 to 2 in reading, writing and mathematics.

Commenting on the results Councillor Emma Will, the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea's Cabinet Member for Education, said: "This is excellent news for parents who send their children to a Royal Borough school. This high standard could not be achieved without a lot of dedication and hard work by our head teachers and teachers and I thank them for all their efforts."

Children's care services protest

LABOUR councillors in Kensington and Chelsea claim families will have to get used to the "grim new reality" of children's services in the borough.

Labour members argue that "having quickly pushed ahead with its much criticised strategy to break up the existing model of children's centre provision and disperse services to a wider range of locations, the council is now running into trouble".

Councillor Harrison Littler, Labour Group spokesperson for Family and Children's Services said "having lost the battle to keep the outstanding Maxilla Children's Centre and it's beautiful award-winning garden open, families will now have to travel a mile across the north of the borough to access nursery school provision and stay and play".

The opposition Labour Group has put forward a range of solutions to keep Maxilla open.



■ **LET'S SING: The Kensington Olympia Festival of Music and the Arts – KOFMA – is being held in the beautiful parish church of St Matthew, Kensington Olympia, on the corner of Sinclair, Masbro and Fielding Roads from Saturday, September 12 to Sunday, September 20. On Tuesday evening, one of the country's leading choral groups, The Erebus Ensemble, appear on the latest leg of their 2015 tour entitled A Tale of Two Traditions.' The programme juxtaposes choral music from two very distinct schools, the early Tudor period and the modern Holy Minimalist tradition. These sound worlds work beautifully together and will come alive in the wonderful acoustic of St Matthew's. The Erebus Ensemble has developed quite a reputation in its short career. They are the Ensemble in Residence at Classic FM's Bristol Proms and work frequently with such groups as Southbank Sinfonia and The English Concert. The group was founded by its director, Tom Williams, pictured who is currently Assistant Director of Music at St Martin in the Fields.**

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BBQ fire engulfs 700 year-old park tree

IT existed before both world wars, before Alexander Bell invented the telephone, and even before the Great Fire of London in 1666, but a 700-year-old oak tree was nearly wiped out from The Royal Parks landscape - by a £1.99 barbecue.

For the third time this year, the fire brigade has been called to Richmond Park to deal with a fire caused by a disposable barbecue. In the most recent case, fire engulfed the hollow part of the veteran tree requiring fire officers and a tree surgeon to spend a gruelling four hours removing chunks of the tree to douse the flames. Luckily they were able to save the tree from being destroyed, although the fire killed countless insects. Over the years, however, several other veteran trees in Richmond Park have been irreparably damaged by barbecue fires.

These incidents highlight the dangers and damage caused by barbecues, which is why they are not allowed in any of London's eight Royal Parks.

Adam Curtis, Assistant Park Manager at Richmond Park, said: "What people don't realise is how easy these fires can start. People buy their cheap barbecue from a supermarket, seek a spot which provides shelter from the wind, and next thing they know they've set a 700-year-old tree on fire. Invariably they get scared and run off.

"Apart from the obvious tree damage, fires can have a serious impact on wildlife including killing bats or baby chicks by choking them to death, destroying grass snake's nests and obliterating the wildlife that feed on the dead or decaying wood of veteran and ancient trees.

Recognise the dangers

"Police patrol the Royal Parks, but with all eight covering in excess of 5,000 acres there is no way they can catch everyone, so we ask the public to please take some responsibility and recognise the dangers."

Sergeant Michael Boulton, from the Royal Parks Operational Command Unit of the Metropolitan Police, said: "I would urge people not to bring barbecues into any of the Royal Parks. Recklessly damaging the park may constitute a criminal offence which upon conviction is likely to result in a fine of up to £20,000. If people see a fire in a Royal Park please call 999."

In Greenwich Park, another of London's Royal Parks, a refuse truck was set alight by a disposable barbecue thrown in a bin, nearly causing £50,000 of damage.

Graham Dear, Park Manager at Greenwich Park, said: "Barbecues scorch grass, harm wildlife and are a major fire risk. The concern with disposable barbecues in particular is that users place them in litter bins when they think they are cold, and they set light to the bins, or in the case here at Greenwich, the fire starts in the refuse trucks. Thankfully we were able to put this particular fire out but it could have been a lot worse."

The Royal Parks are: Bushy Park, The Green Park, Greenwich Park, Hyde Park, Kensington Gardens, The Regent's Park and Primrose Hill, Richmond and St James's Park.



■ **ON FIRE: The 700 year-old tree in Regents Park set alight by a cheap barbecue.**

Win with the London Weekly News

PIZZA lovers are in for a treat with the opening of a new Pizza Express in Paddington.

The new restaurant in Merchant Square, which can seat 154 people, means jobs for 25 new team members, including six pizzaiolos and 12 waiters and waitresses. An estimated 1,000 kilos of dough will be used in the first month as the team prepares to serve up 4,000 pizzas and 1,000 portions of PizzaExpress' iconic Dough Balls.

Each PizzaExpress restaurant is individually designed – often using well known places, people or historical events from the area as the basis. The artwork at the new restaurant takes its inspiration from the illustrations of the 1970s television show, Paddington Bear. A large bespoke storyboard stretches across the whole length of the restaurant and there are also hand drawn illustrations that depict Paddington Station. The overall design creates an inviting and vibrant environment. And for those who like eating al fresco, there is a large outdoor seating area overlooking the canal.

Fabio Napoletano, manager of PizzaExpress Paddington, said:"We will have a beautiful new restaurant and can't wait to show it off to our customers. We have a friendly and enthusiastic team who are looking forward to welcoming everyone over a delicious pizza."

PizzaExpress exciting summer menu has plenty of options, including even more low-calorie mains and desserts, a new range of premium pizzas, called Romana65, the return of some classic salads, the introduction of new salads, new gluten-free recipes and summery desserts.

For younger pizza-lovers, PizzaExpress' Piccolo menu is full of tasty choices including 'Create Your Own' pizza, and starts at just £3.95.

For more details visit www.pizzaexpress.com



From 19 August – 16 September 2015 you can enjoy a third off your food bill all day Monday – Thursday and after 5pm on Sunday. Simply hand this voucher to your waiter when asking for the bill.

Terms and conditions: Offer available at PizzaExpress Paddington all day Monday-Thursday and after 5pm on Sunday until 16 September inclusive. On Sundays please ensure you order your food after 5pm to redeem this offer. Your voucher entitles you to a third off your food bill. The Calzone pizzas and Lunch Specials are excluded from this offer. The Piccolo Menu is included in this offer. Cannot be used in conjunction with any other promotion or set menu, including but not limited to Tesco vouchers/codes, Nectar, NUS extra and Tastecard. Can be used on takeaway orders. Promoter: Head Office, PizzaExpress, Hunton House, Highbridge Estate, Oxford Road, Uxbridge, UB8 1LX.

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Gibsons

FOR RESIDENTS AND VISITORS

London WEEKLY News

ISSUE 40 | PICK UP A FREE COPY | Thursday, September 3rd 2015



When I was 21 I pledged my life to the service of our people and I asked for God's help to make good that vow. Although that vow was made in my salad days, when I was green in judgement, I do not regret nor retract one word of it

Her Majesty's record-breaking reign

SPECIAL REPORT BY GEOFF BAKER – PAGES 2&3

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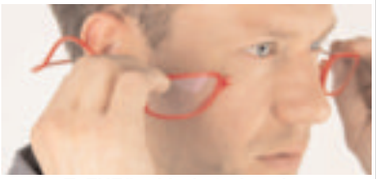
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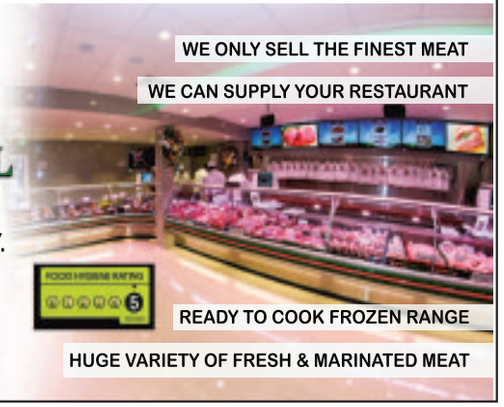
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LONG TO REIGN OVER US: A radiant smile at the start of a long and happy reign.



IT is the autobiography to break all previous publishing records – *The Queen* by Her Majesty Herself.

Publishers estimate that sales could easily top 50 million in hardback alone and the advance could be in the region of at least £20 million, the highest figure ever paid and doubling the previous record of £10 million paid to Bill Clinton for *My Life*.

Film rights could add another £25 million and start the biggest scramble ever seen in Hollywood as every actress under the sun competes to win the greatest screen role since the invention of the cinema.

At least another £10 million could come from a promotional book tour of every major city in the world with Oprah Winfrey re-launching her show to offer an unprecedented deal of an entire week of coverage, syndicated around the globe to an audience of hundreds of millions. And security services judge that if publishers could get Her Majesty to agree to book-signings, then entire city centres would have to be closed down in order to accommodate the anticipated crush.

Unfortunately perhaps, it is never going to happen. For although the most famous woman on earth next week marks the milestone that is unrivalled in the entire 1,000-year history of the British monarchy and next year celebrates her 90th birthday, Ma'am will be keeping Mum.

In our celebrity-obsessed times there is no bigger 'act' than The Queen. Justifiably, she holds the title as the Planet Earth's No 1 superstar; no other can even come close to her fame, nor compete with her following and the affectionate respect which she commands from just being.

Next week, on September 9th, she will add another remarkable record to her achievements when she becomes the longest-reigning monarch since the British monarchy began, passing the previous record set by Queen Victoria.

But when you are the queen bee of an entire world and your influence has greatly shaped it for more than 60 years, what need have you of discussing favourite chapters with Mariella Frostup on Radio 4's Book Club?

Besides, more than enough books will be published about Her Majesty in the next year anyway; as authors and publishers cash in on both The Queen's longest-reign and her 90th birthdays – her actual birthday on April 21st and her official birthday in June. We can expect to see a whole library of new books about Her Majesty, from serious, studied biographies to others about her love of horses, "royal" cookery books and quite probably a guide to The Queen's preference for see-through umbrellas.

The first of the cream of these is Elizabeth II: The Steadfast by the former Home and Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd, an eagerly-anticipated biography for which Prince William has penned the preface.



SMILE PLEASE: The famous royal expression, a smile for everyone, at countless thousands of functions and occasions across The Queen's reign.

William writes: "I think I speak for my generation when I say that the example and continuity provided by The Queen is not only very rare among leaders but a great source of pride and reassurance. Time and again, quietly and modestly, The Queen has shown us all that we can confidently embrace the future without compromising the things that are important."

He adds: "All of us who will inherit the legacy of my grandmother's reign and generation need to do all we can to celebrate and learn from her story. Speaking for myself, I am privileged to have The Queen as a model for a life of service to the public."

But what is "her story", what is The Queen's story as she herself sees it?

As Her Majesty has never given an interview, let alone will write her autobiography, ostensibly it is difficult to say how this most privately-opinioned person looks back on her life; there are no direct personal quotes to turn to for reference, little public evidence of what she thinks.

Largely, other than by analysing her actions and example, we have little to go by to learn about how she sees herself.

Or do we? Perhaps The Queen's own story has been spelled out right under our noses.

Like other very famous people, The Queen completely controls what is posted about her on her own website. The famous, like everyone else for that matter, only allow on their own site information that portrays them in the light that they would most like to be seen. What they say on their sites about themselves is how they see themselves; it's human nature.

Taking that as a rule of thumb, The Queen's depiction of herself on the Royal Family's official website is actually most revealing.

There, behind the photographs of Her Majesty at various functions of State and meeting the good and the great at her many charity events, is a biography section which tells much of The Queen's own story.

What is fascinating about this digital self portrait is a video of The Queen as a child, in the days before her uncle Edward's abdication when she was a happy free spirit and not destined to be the Head of State, with all of the restrictions that entails.

In a series of clips from home movies, we see Princess Elizabeth in her pram but already showing an affection for horses by pulling along behind her on a string a toy horse, then mounting her first pony with eyes smiling in glee, joyously surrounded by labradors, playing with her sister Margaret, gardening, playing with pigeons on her shoulder and doing the Lambeth Walk. This, psychologists might say, is The Queen saying, "this was me when I was free".

Happy Carnival!

NOTTING HILL 2015







■ **LET'S PARTY! All the colours of the rainbow, along with all the sounds you could imagine made the first day of the Notting Hill Carnival a festival of fun. Inset above: Labour leadership hopeful Jeremy Corbyn found himself mobbed by well-wishers when he attended the iconic event.**
Main pictures: REX/Shutterstock

4-page London Weekly News picture supplement

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■ **CARNIVAL CALLING! Transport for London encouraged passengers to plan their journeys over the Carnival bank holiday weekend, top. Meanwhile, revellers didn't take long to encourage their local bobby to enjoy the beat as the Carnival got into full swing.** Pictures: REX/Shutterstock

Party that makes cool £93 million

BY GEOFF BAKER

THE street festival that teaches Europe how to party is now showing the Mayor of London how to make money – as Notting Hill Carnival has been hailed as one of the capital's biggest bread-winners.

Organisers say Carnival injected almost £100 million into the London economy as this year's boisterously-vibrant explosion of Calypso cheer was reckoned as the most successful yet.

Although Carnival is funded with around £6 million of public money – mainly to pay for the large police presence of some 9,000 officers on duty – the return is estimated to be £93 million spent by the hundreds of thousands who joined the weekend of wonder.

As Carnival now enters the 50th year since the fantastical parade grew out of Russell Henderson's Trinidadian steelband first going on walkabout around Notting Hill at the original impromptu procession back in 1966, now the party of the year is drawing international artists and visitors not only from all over the capital but from Europe as well.

It's come a long way since the early days when Claudia Jones's original dream took its early steps with carts and horses supplied by traders from Portobello market pulling the first floats.

"Carnival has changed a lot, now it's so cosmopolitan," said one of the DJs who manned the 70 performing stages and 40 sound systems. "It used to be much more urban but now people are coming from all over Europe to be in the place to be. It's not them and us anymore, now we're all the bunch; it's everybody in the Notting Hill family."

Festival of fun

Despite the overcast skies on Sunday and Monday's showers, the weather could not weary, wither or washout the party spirit and regular Carnivallers were saying this was the biggest and best yet – the capital's TV station London Live was even reporting crowds of two million attending, double the figure for last year.

That guesstimate may have been caught up in the exuberance of the occasion as massive crowds of revellers turned Notting Hill into a sea of smiles, loud colours and hugely-feathered costumes that marked the community's creative genius and its preference for the world's tiniest G-strings.

With Carnival now attracting Soca superstars and icons of Caribbean music including Machel Montano and Angela Hunte to the festival of fun, organisers are aiming to build on the event's shining standing to make the celebrations for next year's half-century anniversary the like of which the capital has never seen before.

With more than 40,000 volunteers now involved in arranging the fabulous procession of happy humanity – and the inevitable clean-up – the greatest street show this side of Rio, which drew only 1,000 people when it began in 1966, has boomed and blossomed into a gigantic gala of London pride, dance and laughter to rank alongside the New Orleans Mardi Gras for festivity.

Fifty years on, Carnival has become an unrivalled occasion of London pride. Next year, the most popular celebration in the world's favourite city is set to become the party of the century.







■ **COLOUR SUPPLEMENT: Notting Hill Carnival brings out the entertainer in all of its participants, young and old – with colour, dance and sound. despite overcast skies on Sunday and some rain on Monday, there was no dampening the spirits of those taking part.** Pictures: REX/Shutterstock















■ **LET THE CHILDREN PLAY: Notting Hill Carnival sees the young contingent take to the streets, as some of these pictures amply demonstrate.** Pictures: REX/Shutterstock













Carnival salute to a founding father

By Mary-Lu Bakker of nottinghill.com

HE played in every Carnival since 1966, but much loved steel band player Russell "Russ" Henderson MBE died this month aged 91.

Henderson, *pictured inset right*, was there at the genesis of the Notting Hill Carnival, which came from the annual Lenten tradition of "playing mas" (masquerade) in the eastern Caribbean. Trinidadian Henderson came to the UK in 1951 as a 25-year-old jazz player.

According to *The Guardian,* community worker Rhaune Laslett invited Henderson to bring a three-piece steel band to play for the first Notting Hill fayre and pageant, an event she had organised in conjunction with the London Free School and the photographer, writer and activist John "Hoppy" Hopkins.



The small steel band arrived at Portobello Green accompanied by a crowd of regulars from the Coleherne pub, and after having played for some time in a standing position, Henderson suggested everyone should embark on a road march.

The procession, joined by the public, was repeated the following day, and became the first manifestation of what has since grown into an international event attended by more than one million revellers each year.

■ **ANYTHING GOES! Bus shelters become a stage for some Notting Hill Carnival revellers, top left, while others show off their dance skills on terra firma.** Pictures: REX/Shutterstock



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– reaching another historic milestone

But duty has always been a cornerstone and hallmark of Her Majesty's pivotal role in the second great Elizabethan Age – a part she has played since her 21st birthday when in a speech to the nation and the Commonwealth she spelled out her take on the monarchy with the words that have become synonymous with the style of her great reign, "I declare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service".

Before that duty came to completely dominate her life, there was another revealing broadcast – which is also tellingly included in The Queen's own choice of content in her biography on her website.

Made in 1940 in the darkest days of the Second World War, it is a public broadcast for the BBC's Children's Hour, made to all of the children who had been evacuated from London and other cities – and her words are those of warmth, friendship and love which reveal much about her heart.

"I feel that I am speaking to friends and companions," says the teenage princess as she introduces a speech that was a blueprint for the theme of her many since, the expression of empathy and understanding.

"Thousands of you in this country have had to leave your homes and be separated from your mothers and fathers. My sister Margaret Rose and I feel so much for you as we know from experience of what it means to be away from those we love most of all."

After delivering more words of chin-up encouragement, the Princess Elizabeth added: "I want to send you all our love and best wishes…we know, every one of us, that in the end all will be well… and when peace comes, remember, it will be for us, the children of today, to make a world of tomorrow a better and happier place."

As the nation and Commonwealth now marks The Queen's remarkable, record-breaking 63-year reign, much will be written on how she has helped make this world a better and happier place.

But, as Prince William writes in his preface, what a world of change she has seen.

"After almost ninety years, we find ourselves in a world that has changed dramatically, almost beyond recognition to the world that The Queen was born into, but where the role of charity, family, duty and compassion perseveres."





■ **COURAGE: Elizabeth showed great poise as a young queen.**

This has been an extraordinary New Elizabethan era, one that recovered from the blackest days of humanity in the aftermath of the worst war in human history and The Holocaust to see the space race, the birth of rock and roll, England's 1966 World Cup triumph, a man on the moon, the spread of democracy, the dominance of the computer, cures for previously-fatal diseases, the Internet, new freedoms of religion and speech and equalities of gender and ethnicity.

In that time The Queen has worked with 12 prime ministers, there have been six archbishops of Canterbury and six Popes, she has given Royal Assent to more than 3,500 Acts of Parliament, conferred more than 404,500 honours and awards and has personally held more than 610 investitures. She has been a Bond girl, a Beatles song and her horses have won more than 1,600 races. She has answered around 3,500,000 items of correspondence, has sent more than 175,000 telegrams to centenarians and 540,000 telegrams to couples celebrating their diamond wedding and with her most-trusted supporter and defender, the Duke of Edinburgh, always at her side, she has undertaken 261 official overseas visits.

And through it all she has known and charmed with that famous "Queenie smile" almost every one of the greats; leaders and idols from Churchill and Kennedy to Mother Teresa and Diana, from Marilyn and Madonna to McCartney and Mandela.

She has become the best-connected person in the history of life on earth and yet through the more 600 charities of which Her Majesty is Patron she has maintained close ties with ordinary people too – and it says much that in choosing how to celebrate her 90th birthday next year The Queen has opted to have a massive picnic with the people in Pall Mall.

So how does she see herself after such a long and glorious reign? A joyful great-grandmother, clearly. But also, and ironically for a ruler, it is as a servant. Those in the know point to a speech that The Queen made in 1977 at the first of her many jubilees.

Back then The Queen attended a lunch at The Guildhall, at which she declared: "When I was twenty-one I pledged my life to the service of our people and I asked for God's help to make good that vow. Although that vow was made in my salad days, when I was green in judgement, I do not regret nor retract one word of it."

It has been a reign of a truly great queen and the time of a very good woman. We learn to our benefit from her story.



■ **A REIGN OF CONTRASTS: Queen Elizabeth, pictured left on a showpiece international tour – on this occasion to Canada – and above, at the centre of national joy following England's victory over West Germany in the 1966 World Cup.**



■ **FAMILY CONNECTIONS: Prince William pays tribute to his grandmother in a forthcoming book.**



SHOWBIZ SPECIAL

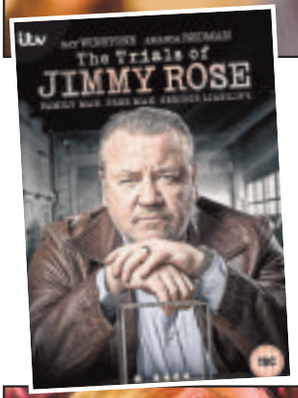
Ray Winstone on the trials of life in his home city

My London keeps changing – and not all of it for the better

by Geoff Baker



■ **ALL CHANGE: Ray Winstone stars in ITV's The Trials of Jimmy Rose with Amanda Redman.**





LABOUR and the Tories and whatever is left of the Lib-Dems these days are missing a trick in the soon-to-get-rabid race to win the tussle to be the next Mayor of London.

Instead of the major parties presenting us with a choice between the usual career politicians all clamouring to improve the lot of the young, if one of them really wants to win the job of replacing Boris then they ought to make Ray Winstone the Generation 50s candidate. He'd walk it.

London is no longer the city where Winstone was born 58 years ago. Since Boris reinvented it as the planet's leading plaything for 20s-30s financiers, it has become some sort of psychotic version of Dick Whittington's dream; where those slower to find any gold in the paving are crushed underfoot by the get-rich-young swarming in their Aston Martins to back to mile-high penthouses which are sited where a community that talked to each other used to stand.

Winstone is old London; the son of a costermonger who grew up playing on bomb sites, well used to barneys in the neighbourhood being "sorted" without one side calling in solicitors and SC&O19 to back up a writ for "social damages" because the other bloke called them a twerp.

But although London is now the citadel of basement-building young bankers backed by a whippersnapper bureaucracy who will put a Crossrail 2 line through your front room without so much as a by-your-leave, there are still a lot of older Londoners left who can remember popping down to the corner-shop for a packet of fags without getting deafened by teenagers over-revving a Ferrari bought by Papa in lieu of them having no beard yet.

And although the sanitisers and regentrifiers are slowly – but very surely – pushing older London out to the farthest edges of the capital, if not social cleansing the city but at least financially dry-cleaning it, a great many of the threatened 50s would vote Winstone into City Hall like a shot. His values – family, courtesy, uncomplication – resonate with those who remember a time when it didn't take 42 years to save for a deposit on a little place in Chelsea.

Now starring on ITV in the powerful new drama *The Trials Of Jimmy Rose*, the story of a hard man trying to go straight in order to keep his family, Winstone has affectionate memories of the way that London used to be, when it was full of actual Londoners; several generations of a family all living within a few streets of each other.

"That's what's different today, because that's how it used to be when I was a kid," says the Hackney-born lad who moved to an Enfield council estate at the age of seven and who turned to acting after college in Hammersmith.

"Your nan lived there, your uncles lived there, your mum and your sister were all there. And the people in that street grew up with your mum and dad and that was the community.

"London, like all cities, changes. Cities get bigger and people now only live in the areas where they work. When we had that explosion when people started moving away to go to work, it broke the communities up. That's just the way it happens, but I think we lost that community and that sense of justice and looking after your own."

Because of his previous playing hard men on screen, Winstone was perhaps an obvious choice to be Jimmy Rose, but when he was first approached about the part he admits he was reticent about appearing as yet another villain.

"Once they say 'he's a guy coming out of prison' I go, 'now hold on'," says Winstone.

"But when I read the script I saw that it's not actually about all that, it's about family; it's about what a man actually does to his family when he's banged up for 12 years. He destroys them, he loses his kids. They're growing up in a world that's changing, but he's not. His kids' world has changed and he hasn't been there to protect them."

This, says Winstone, is a world with which he can empathise.

"It's my way of living, it's where I come from and it's where my age group comes from," he said. "You have a responsibility and a morality to look after your own and to deal with it yourself.

"We never used to call the police. If there's a silly argument today, somebody calls the police. Years ago it was dealt with. Not necessarily in a fight. But in a row someone said their piece and they went in and looked you in the eye and you said what you had to say.

"I think those days have gone and everything has become very PC. Everything's become almost like America – 'you touch me and I'll sue you' – whereas years ago if somebody was out of line they got a clump and that was it, forgotten about."

Like many of his age, Jimmy Rose struggles to cope and keep up in a London of apps and Oyster cards, not comprehending the need for ever-time-shortening technology. And although Winstone has obviously never done a 12-year stretch that kept him out of the loop when the new world decreed that all of its citizens now have to be techno-savvy, the confusion of machine-reliant life is something else that the actor very much gets.

"I'd like to say that because I've got four girls in my house I don't know how to switch a kettle on. But that's not true," he said.

"But I remember my little girl Ellie when she was seven, this was seven years ago, I didn't even know how to turn a computer on. She taught me how to use a computer at seven years of age. I was oblivious to it. I can now email only because she spent time and taught me how to do it. But I keep the same telephone because it would take me probably two or three months to sort out how to work a new phone. I buy the same phone all the time so I know exactly how to work it.

"You have to remember, we started off on Motorolas and all that. You'd just press a button. It was like a house brick. But now it's all these fiddly little things and touch screens. I'd be absolutely lost without my daughter."

It's the same thing with Jimmy Rose and Winstone when it comes to getting around town; like other baby boomers, both are flummoxed by the everyday of new London living, like not being able to pay in cash on a Boris bus.

"It's been a while since I was on a bus but that would gazump me, if I got on a bus and you couldn't pay cash," said Winstone, who is perceptively cynical about the real reasons behind the "ease" of the new plastic culture.

"It's something that really annoys me and gets my goat at the moment. Everything is geared to a credit card. Well, of course it is because you have to pay interest on a credit card or whatever you have to pay. I remember the days when people used to carry cash around. There's nothing better than having a bit of cash in your pocket. It's all about them knowing where your money is and how you're spending it. It's got nothing to do with your protection. It's protecting them. And it drives me insane that I can't actually give anyone a tenner. You can't get on a bus in London and pay in cash. You have to buy an Oyster card.

"So what do you pay for the Oyster card with? Can you buy it for cash? Or do you have to use a credit card? So say if you haven't got a bank account, you can't get on the bus. Well that's wrong."

You can hear the "quite right" and "hear hear" echoing from Whitechapel to Shepherds Bush with him there, as the excluded generation of 50s-60s – who include his co-star Amanda Redman, the *New Tricks* star playing Jimmy's wife Jackie – battle for a footing in the youth-obsessed culture of New London. Winstone and Redman have been friends since their twenties and he hails her as one of Britain's best actresses, a powerful screen force whose great experience is sometimes underrated by directors blinkered by the misbelief that only young people watch television.

"I love Amanda to death. I've worked with her a few times now. I don't know whether underrated is the right word because she's not underrated by people within the profession," he said. "She's up there with the best actresses who have ever come out of this country, I think. And I know that from working opposite her. I'm a friend of hers, so I'm a bit biased anyway, but she's never failed to deliver in anything she's ever done."

For Amanda and for all actresses of Generation 50s, the part of Jackie is a godsend of which – as she has frequently complained – there are precious few.

"I've been vocal for a long time about the lack of roles for women of my age, there's aren't enough good roles for women in their 50s," she said.

"If that was the same for men then you'd have to go 'well, that's life', but it isn't. And therefore it's insidious sexism and it makes my blood boil.

"For example, I had been nominated for an award and somebody said the role I had been nominated for was a great role so did I not agree that there are great roles for women?'

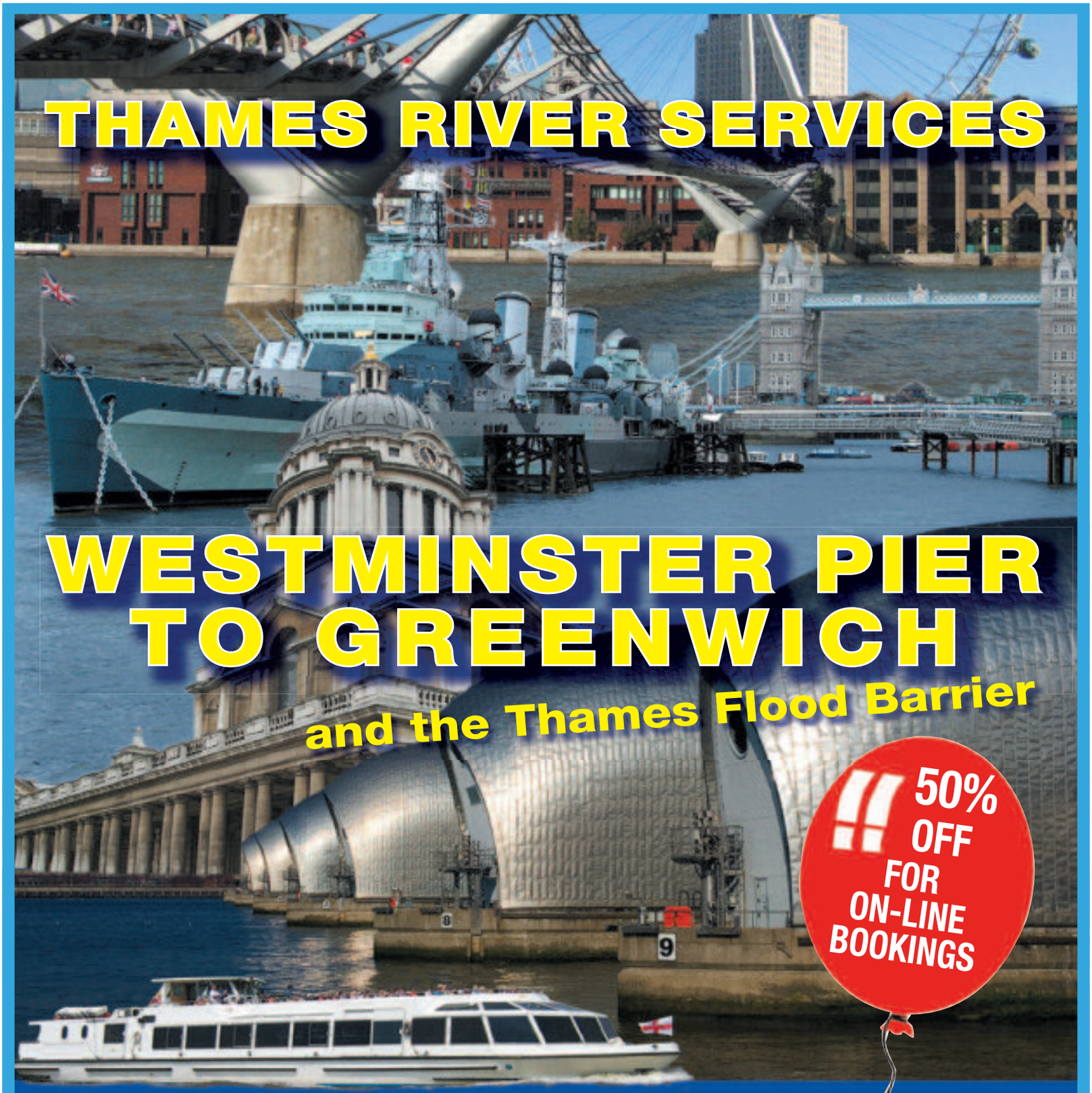
"I said, 'It's one role, and in those nominations I am the only woman in her 50s; there are no others.' So the truth is there just aren't enough roles written for women in their 50s, and there are quite a few of us. So, consequently, there are not enough to go around. It's labelled as whingeing – but why is it whingeing when all you are doing is defending your right to work? Why is it wrong to say that needs to be redressed?

"Another actress said to me once, 'Can you imagine a world where *New Tricks* was about three women in their 50s, late 50s and 60s and a younger, good-looking bloke?' No, and that's sexism. Dramas like *Home Fires* are fantastic. How brilliant was that, that there are roles for older women? But they are so few and far between.

"There are still plenty of roles for younger women in their 20s and 30s and, actually, late 60s and upwards. But not the 50s, because they don't know what to do with us; they don't know what we are. We're not old, we're not young, so what are we? What they forget is the demographic of people watching television is women of our age and they want to see themselves represented on screen."

And much of that same demographic would like the ways of their old city back.

■ **The Trials Of Jimmy Rose**
ITV Sunday 9pm



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WINE & DINE

The food and drink page for West London

Better by design

THERE'S only so long you can talk, in everyday life, about how much cinnamon you like in your buns before someone's like, 'OK, enough.

So says Frances Quinn, with a laugh. The former Joules designer is giddily recalling the joy of spending a summer in the *Great British Bake Off* tent, nattering with her fellow bakers, who were all as obsessed with ingredients as she is.

Despite weekly digs from judges Paul 'twinkly eyes' Hollywood and Mary Berry for going all out on style, sometimes at the expense of substance, Quinn still claimed the Bake Off crown (well, apron) in 2013, and since then has created a slew of tasty public masterpieces – including piano shortbread for Jools Holland, a giant Club biscuit surrounded with sweet Bombay mix for indie band Bombay Bicycle Club, and even a cheesecake inspired by Matisse.

Now, finally, the 33-year-old is releasing her first book, aptly named *Quintessential Baking* and packed full of cakes and sweet treats.

"I suppose the book is like my baking: that mix of baking and design, so the ingredients are as important as the ideas," she says.

Born in Northampton, Quinn was baking by age five, and spent hours in her father's bookshop in Market Harborough – where she still lives – poring over Quentin Blake's illustrations and Roald Dahl's fantastical tales ("That stuff really did capture my imagination").

It wasn't until she began working at Joules as a childrenswear designer, that making cakes for friends turned into blogging about cakes, and then one particular bake – a secret squirrel cake made for a very pregnant colleague - had the entire office clamouring for her to sign up for Bake Off.

"Everyone was like, 'Oh my God!', when I cut into that cake and there was a squirrel inside it. That was where it took a real creative slant," she remembers. "It's just snowballed from there."

While no longer at Joules, she's adamant she's designing as much now as ever. "But I'm designing with food, rather than fabric," she notes. "It's just a different medium to be creative with."

Quintessential Baking is, of course, unapologetically heavy on the design front. As such, the book even has its own colour palette and colour-co-ordinated props. And the level of detail is extreme – from coffee and walnut cakes in disposable coffee cups, to mini 'fried egg' lemon cakes and paw-printed marmalade cat-flapjacks.

Still, there were a few mishaps along the way, she reveals – Quinn won't be travelling with meringues again any time soon, that's for sure – but nothing compares to the levels of stress she experienced in the Bake Off tent though. "It was literally pandemonium, it was just insane," she recalls. "The tent is just mocked up, so the floor is really bumpy and bouncy because you'd got so many camera guys running around. I remember when we were doing egg custard tarts, the floor was literally a bouncy castle!"

She counts her competition-winning wedding cake as a major highlight on the show, but it was "getting the Hollywood handshake for my cauliflower cheese scones" that really took the biscuit.

"Time and fridge space are the enemy on that show," she says. "You have to run on your adrenaline and just deal with things when they don't go right and be able to change tack, and go, 'OK, I'll have to think of something else'."



■ ATTENTION TO DETAIL: Baker Frances Quinn.

Here is a beautiful bake from Quinn's new book to try at home...

COFFEE SHOT 'CUP' CAKES

(*Makes 12 cakes*)

3tbsp instant coffee
3tbsp boiling water
3tbsp whole milk
150g butter
150g light muscovado sugar
3 eggs
150g self-raising flour
150g walnuts, toasted and chopped

For the coffee syrup:
1/2tbsp instant coffee
50ml boiling water
50g caster sugar
1/2tbsp coffee liqueur

For the topping:
250g mascarpone
Few drops of vanilla extract
50g icing sugar
Dash of milk or cream
Cocoa powder (to decorate)



■ TEMPTING: Coffee 'shot' cup cakes.

Preheat the oven to 180C/Gas 4. Line a 12-hole muffin tin with espresso-sized paper cups.

Mix the coffee with the hot water, then stir in the milk. Set aside to cool. Beat the butter and sugar together until very light and creamy (10-15 minutes). The mixture will turn from a rich toffee brown, to a pale cafe-au-lait shade. Beat the eggs together and gradually add to the creamed butter and sugar mixture, beating well after each addition. Add a spoonful of flour if it looks like it's going to curdle. Sift in the flour and fold until just combined, then stir in the chopped walnuts. Spoon the mixture into the paper cups and bake for 15-20 minutes, or until the cakes have risen and a skewer pushed into the centre comes out clean.

While the cakes bake, make the syrup. Put the coffee in a small pan, add the boiling water and stir to dissolve the granules. Stir in the sugar. Set the pan over a medium heat and bring to the boil. Reduce the heat and simmer gently for a few minutes or until the sugar is completely dissolved and you are left with a runny syrup. Remove from the heat and stir in the liqueur, if using. Once the cakes are baked, remove from the oven and leave to cool in the tin for five minutes. During this time, prick them all over with a cocktail stick and brush over the coffee syrup using a paint or pastry brush, allowing the syrup to soak into the sponge. Use about half a tablespoon of syrup per cup. Remove the cakes from the tin, still in their cups, and leave to cool completely on a wire rack. Beat the mascarpone, vanilla and icing sugar together until creamy, adding a dash of milk or cream if necessary. Spoon some on to each cake and decorate with cocoa.



MARK HIX'S RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Hot-smoked salmon with pickled fennel and horseradish

SERVES 4

WITH the boom in artisan baking and bread making, you might have thought we'd be seeing a lot more Scandinavian open sandwiches around.

I do come across the odd one here and there, and of course in this country we love to put things on toast – technically making a kind of open sandwich – but we rarely get very adventurous with it.

That's a shame. You can have lots of fun with open sandwiches, utilising and matching all sorts of seasonal ingredients. There's not too much skill required, to be honest, just a delicate touch so that they look visually appealing.

Hot-smoked salmon, or Bradan Rost (roast salmon, in Gaelic) as it's sometimes referred to, is cured in a similar way to the cold-smoked fish, then cooked in a hot kiln. It has a dark colour and lovely firm texture. I've used toasted dark rye bread (also called pumpernickel) with pumpkin seeds here, but you can really use any base you fancy.

1 small or half a bulb of fennel, halved and very thinly sliced
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
2tsp caster sugar
Enough cider vinegar to cover the fennel
1tbsp creamed horseradish
1tbsp good quality mayonnaise
4 slices of dark rye bread
200-250g hot-smoked salmon
The fennel tops or a few sprigs of dill

START on the pickle a day or two beforehand. Put the fennel in a non-reactive bowl, season lightly, add the sugar and cover with the vinegar. Cover with cling film and place in the fridge.

When ready to serve, drain the fennel (keeping the vinegar for a salad dressing), and mix the horseradish with the mayonnaise. Toast the bread on both sides. Break the salmon into pieces and arrange on the bread with the pickle, then top with a small spoonful of the mayonnaise and the fennel tops and dill.



■ OPEN AND HONEST: Hot-smoked salmon with pickled fennel and horseradish – made to a recipe by Mark Hix.

Talk Of The Town

Music | Theatre | Reviews





■ **MIXED EMOTIONS: Ria Jones, left, and Ceri Dupree at the St James Theatre.**

Intimate night of cabaret tugs at the heartstrings

Miss-Leading Ladies *****

I REALLY love the set-up at the St James. Both the theatre and the studio are modern, comfortable and always inviting, so I rarely turn down the opportunity to attend a show there if invited, *writes Nicky Sweetland.*

The performance I was to see last week was also a must for me as it starred one of my all-time favourite performers, Ria Jones.

Jones has played some of the most famous roles in musical theatre, including understudying Elaine Paige as Eva Peron in the original Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice production of *Evita*. She is well known for her truly astounding vocal ability but also her quick wit and charming repartee, which makes an intimate evening of cabaret such as this her real forte.

For this offering titled, *Miss-Leading Ladies*, Jones teamed up with her sibling Ceri Dupree for a show charting some of the most celebrated women of stage and screen. We were treated to stories and musical delights in what sometimes feels like old fashion vaudeville filled with high tempo laughter and song throughout.

The show aptly opened with "Sisters" and we were immediately hit by the glorious costumes and stage presence of Ceri, who has spent many years travelling the world entertaining audiences with his fabulous shows.

He "takes off" some the most famous silver screen starlets of all time with verve and excitement, and leaves the audience in stitches with famous quotes from stars such as Bette Davis, including my favourite line of the evening: "In Hollywood you lie on the sand and look at the stars, or sometimes in reverse."

Our tears of laughter soon turned to tears of sadness however, as Jones took us on an emotional rollercoaster, performing classics like *If You Love Me (Really Love Me)* and *Secret Love* with such passion that you could hear many choking on their interval drinks.

The Jones/Dupree house must have been a fun place to grow up as the rapport between the pair is hilarious and they regale us with tales of their show-making childhood years while quipping back and forth at each other with perfect timing and facetiousness.

Musical accompaniment was provided by Sally Peerless and the multi talented Ed Court, who is making a real name for himself as a virtuoso musical director and who at only 22, has a very bright future ahead.

The show ended with Ceri taking the stage without costume and joining his sister to sing a very touching duet.

This made the perfect finale to the wonderfully intimate show.

I cried with sadness and cried with joy at this marvellous evening of entertainment, which was directed by award-winning cabaret performer Sarah-Louise Young. I hope it will make a return to London so that I can see it once more.

Dalai Lama willl bring compassion to the O2

THE Dalai Lama is to give a public talk at the O2 Arena on Saturday, September 19 – organised by the Tibet House Trust.

The talk, entitled *Compassion: the Foundation of Well-Being*, will begin at 1pm and will be followed by a question and answer session chaired by psychologist and "emotional intelligence" expert Daniel Goleman.

This will be the main public appearance of the Dalai Lama in the UK since more than 100,000 people celebrated his 80th birthday at Glastonbury Festival in June. It will be a rare opportunity for British people to hear directly from the Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and religious leader, who is known for his ground-breaking work on compassion in education and society with scientists and scholars.

Speaking from his home in Dharamsala, India, His Holiness thanked people across the world for their greetings on his birthday and said: "As you know, my life is dedicated to the service of all sentient beings, and in particular I try to help my fellow human beings in whatever way I can.

"What unites all sentient beings is that we all naturally seek happiness and try to avoid suffering. Therefore, we have a collective responsibility to try to bring about the wellbeing and happiness of all living beings and help them overcome their suffering.

"This is the basis of hope on which I make an appeal that we all work enthusiastically to promote ethical values imbued with love and compassion and that we do our best to reduce, if not eliminate, the conflicts and violence that currently beset many parts of the world."

The talk at the O2 is the main public event of the Dalai Lama's 10-day visit to the UK.

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Talk Of The Town

london Listings

Kensington Olympia Festival of Music and the Arts

The Kensington Olympia Festival of Music and the Arts – KOFMA – is being held in the beautiful parish church of St Matthew, Kensington Olympia, on the corner of Sinclair, Masbro and Fielding Roads from Saturday September 12 to Sunday, September 20. The week of concerts, art exhibitions, school events, architectural walks and literary talks, kicks off on the Saturday with the monumental Bach Mass in B minor performed by The Oxford Spezzati soloists, chorus and orchestra under its director Nicholas Mumby. For detailed information about all the events, including ticket prices - which are all bookable online – go to www.kofma.co.uk. Or just turn up on the day. Tickets for the gala dinner are also available through Laura Lamph on kofma2015@gmail.com or 07779 108108.

Importance of Being Earnest at the Vaudeville Theatre

To November 7
David Suchet stars as Lady Bracknell in Oscar Wilde's much loved masterpiece. Directed by Adrian Noble, Wilde's superb satire on Victorian manners is one of the funniest plays in the English language – the delightful repartee and hilarious piercing of hypocrisy and pomposity can still make you laugh out loud. www.importanceofearnest.com

Exhibition of work by artist Irwin Crosthwait at Gray MCA

September 17 to 22
Unseen and redisovered works by the former Canadian war artist, fashion illustrator and modern painter Irwin 'Bud' Crosthwait (1914 – 1981), will go on sale in an unprecedented selling exhibition by Gray MCA in London this September. The exhibition will present the most extensive selection of works by Crosthwait in 45 years, from across Europe and North America, including many works that have never before been on public view. The exhibition will feature a total of more than 60 original works ranging in price from £350-£10,000. Location: Gallery 8, 8 Duke Street St James's London SW1Y 6BN. Opening hours: Thursday 17 September – 9.30am - 8.00pm; Friday 18 September, Saturday 19 September, Sunday 20 September, Monday 21 September, Tuesday 22 September – 9.30am - 6.30pm

Sinatra: The Man and His Music at the London Palladium

To October 10th
The iconic music of Frank Sinatra is brought to life at one of the capital's most iconic venues in Sinatra: The Man and His Music at the London Palladium. This multi-media concert, which has the support and endorsement of the singer's family, marks the centenary of Sinatra's birth and features his greatest hits including Fly Me To The Moon, New York, New York and My Way.

London Mela

Sunday September 6
The London Mela, Europe's largest outdoor South Asian festival, returns to Gunnersbury Park, Ealing, with a spectacular line-up of live music, dance, visual arts and food from South Asia. Over 70,000 people enjoyed last year's creative triumph and this year the festival is set to be even bigger and better than ever, with Bollywood, urban and classical music, outdoor arts, dance, fashion, sports, a children's area, Tastes of Asia, the London Mela Bazaar, a giant funfair and a spectacular firework finale!

Horrible Histories: Barmy Britain Part 3 at the Garrick Theatre

To September 5
We all want to meet people from history. The trouble is everyone is dead! Will King John be a martyr for the Magna Carta? Party with the Puritans and light up your life with the great fire of London! Clap along with crazy King Charles! Will you see eye to eye with Admiral Nelson? Does the Duke of Wellington get the boot? Vomit with the vile Victorians and make a great escape from the First World War! Starring Neal Foster and Anthony Spargo, it's history with the nasty bits left in! Tickets from £8.75

Hamlet at the Barbican Theatre

To October 31
Directed by Lyndsey Turner and starring Benedict Cumberbatch. Benedict Cumberbatch takes on the title role in Shakespeare's great tragedy. Directed by Lyndsey Turner (Posh, Chimerica) and produced by Sonia Friedman Productions, the Barbican presents an exclusive twelve-week run of this compelling new production in summer 2015.

West London Philatelic Society

September 1
West London Philatelic Society is ten years old in September. Its first meeting of 2015-2016 is on September 1, on the theme of anniversaries. Meetings start at 8pm and are held at The Church Rooms, behind Acton Hill Church, Woodlands Avenue, Acton, London W3 9BU. In general, meetings are on the first Tuesdays of each month, from September to July, unless noted otherwise. They are a small, friendly society, so if you're interested in stamps or postal history why not go along. New members welcome. For more details contact Honorary Secretary Christopher E Oliver on Tel: 020 8940 9833 or e-mail: olivers.of_ham@virgin.net. Web: sites.google.com/site/westlondonphilatelicsociety

Buckingham Palace summer opening

To September 27th
Visit Buckingham Palace, the official London residence of the Queen, this summer. Buckingham Palace is one of the world's few remaining working royal palaces - don't miss the chance to see it.

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WONDERFUL: Tracy-Ann Oberman and Stephen Wight in McQueen.

Bawden a welcome fashion accessory

McQueen ****

AFTER interviewing the show's leading man Stephen Wight just a few weeks ago, I was really excited to be invited to the press night of the West End transfer of *McQueen*, *writes Nicky Sweetland.*

It was a glitzy affair with many of the cast of *Strictly Come Dancing* in attendance along with the likes of David Hasslehoff, Jennifer Saunders and the ever stylish Goq Wan – all there to celebrate the legacy of the acclaimed fashion icon, Alexander McQueen.

The play, which received mixed reviews after its run at the St James Theatre, is a fantasy tale of one night in the couture designer's life. It sees McQueen, who is struggling to find inspiration for his next collection, disturbed by an intruder, a girl who wants to steal one of his priceless dresses. They embark on an adventure around London and find that they share many of the same torments.

The themes seek to echo some of the torture from which McQueen is known to have suffered and which eventually resulted in his suicide in 2010. Stephen Wight expertly portrays this with sensitivity and appeal and gives a seemingly realistic insight into the mind of the creative genius.

Stephen himself told me in our previous interview, "his blessing and his talent were ultimately his curse".

There were two major changes from the St James production: the inclusion of an interval which I don't think is needed, and the casting of Carly Bawden as the girl Dahlia, a role played by American TV darling Dianna Agron in the original play.

Bawden was a very welcome addition and gave a completely different and much more likeable feel to the character of the ballsy American, which helped to make the relationship between the pair much more believable.

McQueen trained as a Savile Row tailor before gaining a masters degree in fashion. He was later persuaded to change to his middle name, Alexander, by influential stylist Isabella Blow, who is played by the wonderful Tracy-Ann Oberman in a pure white dream sequence.

The skills he learned in Savile Row gave him a reputation within the fashion world for expert tailoring, something which is explored in my favourite scene in the play, which sees McQueen craft a dress onto the expectant Dahlia in a late-night visit to the famed clothing district.

The show still had all of the things I loved about the first incarnation – from the lighting by David Farley to the wonderful choreography by Christopher Marney.

It's like watching an exhibition of art and with the Savage Beauty collection at the V and A sold out for much of its residency, Alexander McQueen is still very much in fashion.

Tense, truthful portrayal of 50s family life

DESCRIBED as a mucky romp through the morals, memories and music of the 1950s, Hatched 'n' Dispatched, by Gemma Page and Michael Kirk, is to make its UK premiere this month at the intimate Park Theatre, *writes Nicky Sweetland.*

The black comedy is set in the industrial north of England, and will boast an all-star cast for its four-week run, including Dianna Vickers, Vicky Bins and, as the matriarchal head of the family, Wendi Peters. Wendi is best known for playing the swindling Cilla Battersby Brown in ITV's Coronation Street but has also starred alongside Aled Jones in the smash hit musical White Chritsmas, which was hugely popular last year at the Dominion Theatre. She plays Dorothy Mavis, a formidable mother, who prizes her social respectability in a tense and truthful portrayal of 50s family life. She took some time out of rehearsals to tell me about the play.

"Dorothy Mavis is the head of the Meadon family. Circumstances have arisen which mean we end up having a funeral and a christening on the same day.

"She's organised it all and everybody comes back to her sister's, where they have a little bit too much advocaat and lemonade, family secrets start to emerge and by the end everything's spilled."

Now a thriving theatre for the community, Park Theatre will host the star-studded Hatched 'n' Dispatched in the 90-seat studio.

Wendi explains: "We're performing it in the round so that people think they are actually in the living room with this family. It's fabulous to have it so intimate there. "

Hatched 'n' Dispatched runs until September 26. For more details visit parktheatre.co.uk

Talk Of The Town

Penny is good change for the Old Vic's bar

THE much loved Pit Bar at the Old Vic has undergone extensive refurbishments this summer – ready to open its doors as the renamed Penny this month.

Named after the Penny Lectures, a series of talks hosted in the halls of The Old Vic in 1882 designed to encourage new thinking and ideas amongst the people of London, the theatre hopes to invite non-theatre goers and theatre lovers alike to while away the hours away from the hustle and bustle of Waterloo and Southwark.

Penny will serve creatively driven food and drink from local products and like-minded producers, with simplicity and provenance at the heart of the offering. Speciality coffee from Workshop Coffee, in Clerkenwell, will be served alongside an all-day menu flowing from breakfast into a relaxed evening service.

To complement this brand new addition to The Old Vic, the front of house spaces will also be refreshed to tie into the opening of Matthew Warchus' first season as artistic director of the renowned theatre.

This marks the beginning of a five-year plan to deliver the theatre for the future, which includes a full-scale restoration of the historic Grade II listed theatre building to be started once funds permit.

The Old Vic prides itself on its links with the community and will be donating a penny for each item sold at Penny to a charity inspired by the themes of the show on the main stage at the time.



CLASS ACT: Rosemary Ashe and Sara Crowe clash in the musical, Crush.

Crowe ensures class warfare is a crushing draw

THE Richmond Theatre will soon be filled with the sound of the school bell and an abundance of pigtails when the new musical *Crush* stops off on its tour, *writes Nicky Sweetland.*

The production, which stars Rosemary Ashe and Sara Crowe, follows the girls of the Dame Dorothea Dosserdale School, which has a proud tradition of fostering free spirits from all walks of life.

Sara Crowe is best known for her part in the hit film *Four Weddings and a Funeral* as well as being the face of Philadelphia for many years. She plays the deputy headmistress in this new production with music and lyrics by Kath Gotts. Sara told me about the role: "I'm playing the deputy headmistress Mrs Austin, who is a sort of emancipated free thinker; a free spirit who believes that girls should have an equal education as boys and fulfil their dreams. It's a battle between good and evil and I'm the goodie."

A new headmistress changes the school motto from "Do what you do well" to "Learn or depart" and her tyrannical attributes crush the spirit of the establishment. With the help of Mrs Austin the girls fight back and good triumphs in a celebration of schoolgirl friendships and fighting for what you believe in.

The book is by Maureen Chadwick, whose other work includes *Waterloo Road* and *Footballers' Wives*. The production is directed by Anna Linstrum. Sara added: "It's a real tonic. It's along the lines of Bunty and Judith's school friend, the old school girl comics. It's all very sweet and hearty and innocent."

Crush will play at the Richmond Theatre from the September 29 October 3. For more details visit the website *atgtickets.com*

Charity event is a showcase of stars

Sweet Charity ****



By NICKY SWEETLAND
LWN Theatre Critic

THIS was my first visit to Cadogan Hall and I was elated to have found such a fantastic venue.

The plush and ritzy auditorium set just off Sloane Square was playing host to a concert version of the Cy Coleman classic musical *Sweet Charity*, which starred a veritable feast of West End royalty along with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in this deluxe production.

Denise Van Outen took the leading role in the tale of the dance hall hostess Charity Hope Valentine, who is desperately searching for love and a different life only to be scuppered in her every attempt. Van Outen is no stranger to the musical theatre genre, having previously played Maureen in *Rent* at the Duke of York's Theatre and Paulette in *Legally Blonde* at the Savoy.

She revelled in the sizeable role, dancing and singing with verve throughout and belting showstoppers including the classics *I'm a Brass Band* and *If My Friends Could See Me Now.* Van Outen also teamed up with two other stage starlets in the shape of former Girls Aloud star Kimberley Walsh and West End big shot Kerry Ellis. The pair played Charity's friends and colleagues and along with Van Outen provided one of the evening's musical highlights, *There's Gotta Be Something Better Than This*, a Latin style number which showcased the three sirens' all-round stage mastery. Walsh and Ellis also duetted beautifully with the song *Baby Dream Your Dream*, showing why they command their own headline billings.

The real star of the show, however, was Michael Xavier, the acclaimed West End actor with an old fashion look of a matinee idol and a voice that just melts into your every pore. Xavier played both leading men, firstly film star Vitorio, a charming and virile hero who entertains Charity in his hotel room in a bid to enrage his high maintenance girlfriend. Xavier extracted every bit of comedy from this role and sang the beautiful *Too Many Tomorrows*, which prompted the greatest applause from the enthusiastic audience.

He then seamlessly changed gear and became Oscar, a nervous and paranoid accountant who is beguiled by Charity only to eventually break her heart.

He was also portrayed expertly by Xavier, making the awkward klutz a far more lovable character than I had previously seen.

Ensemble support was provided by students from Arts Ed College, who with the help of some clever choreography by Matt Flint made an attractive and energetic company.

My only negative was that it would have been nicer without the use of scripts, particularly in the more sensitive scenes, which lost some of their impact when pages were turned and eye contact was lost.

That said, the concert format as a whole worked well and it was so lovely to have a bigger orchestra giving the music a much fuller feeling, especially in the big brassy numbers like *Hey Big Spender.*

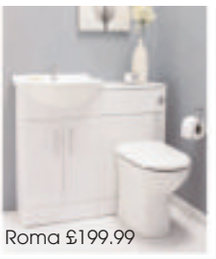
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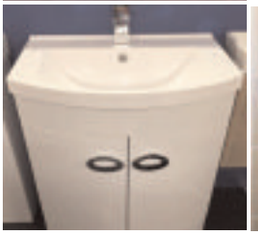
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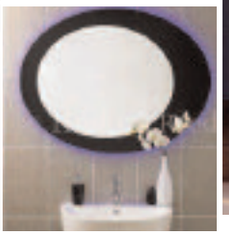
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Local Planning Applications
London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

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PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990
I give notice that applications have been made to the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham as follows:

FOR DEVELOPMENT WHICH MAY AFFECT THE CHARACTER OR APPEARANCE OF A CONSERVATION AREA

212 New King's Road SW6
2015/03958/FUL
Change of use of the ground floor from retail (Class A1) into an office (Class B1); formation of a plant enclosure at roof level; formation of bin stores and cycle parking to the eastern elevation of the site; alterations to the external fenestration at ground floor level to include removal of existing doors and windows, installation of new windows to the northern, southern and western elevation of the building; installation of new entrance door to the western elevation of the building; alterations to the rooftop of the single storey building; associated landscaping and external alterations.

7 Bradbourne Street SW6
2015/03964/FUL
Erection of a front and rear roof extension; erection of a rear extension at second floor level over part of the existing back addition; installation of 2no rooflights in the front roofslope; erection of a rear extension at first floor level following the removal of existing balcony; installation of 1no window at the rear elevation and 2no windows to the side of rear back addition at first floor level to replace the existing; erection of a single storey rear extension to the side of the existing back addition following partial demolition of existing single storey back addition; excavation of the front and rear garden to form lightwells in connection with the enlargement of the existing basement.

3 Beavor Grove Beavor Lane W6
2015/03973/FUL
Erection of a part one, part two storey rear extension at basement and ground floor level; excavation of the front garden in connection with the enlargement of the existing basement; erection of new brick walls and railings to the front elevation at basement and ground floor level; replacement of existing window with French doors at ground floor level to the front elevation; associated landscaping and external alterations.

30 Brackenbury Road W6
2015/03985/FUL
Erection of an additional floor at roof level in connection with the creation of a one bedroom self-contained flat.

123 Rannoch Road W6
2015/04048/FUL
Erection of a rear roof extension; installation of French doors and Juliet balcony to rear elevation at second floor level; installation of three rooflights in the front roofslope; replacement of existing roof tiles with new tiles to the front roofslope.

260 Goldhawk Road W12
2015/03629/FUL
Installation of a new shopfront to front elevation and Greenside Road elevation; installation of new cycle racks.

25 Delvino Road SW6
2015/04032/FUL
Erection of rear roof extension involving an increase in the ridge height; erection of a rear extension at second floor level, on top of the existing back addition.

5 Hemlock Road W12
2015/04034/FUL
Erection of a single storey rear extension following the demolition of existing conservatory; installation of new rooflights in the front, rear and side roofslope; installation of new windows to replace the existing windows at ground and first floor level, to the front, side and rear elevation; removal of existing front porch and installation a new canopy above the front entrance door.

Flat First And Second Floors 121 Goldhawk Road W12
2015/03948/FUL
Erection of a front roof extension; repositioning of dome light on flat roof at main roof level; and installation of a rooflight in the rear roofslope.

39 Broomhouse Lane SW6
2015/03972/FUL
Erection of a single storey front and rear extension at ground floor level; excavation of front garden and part of rear garden to form lightwells, in connection with the creation of the basement.

James Lee Nursery School Gliddon Road W14
2015/03927/FUL
Repositioning of controlled access front entrance gates for pedestrians; enclosure of access ramp with mesh fence above existing retaining wall to a height of 2.174 metres; and increase in height of the existing mesh fence around the front boundary wall by 200mm to a maximum height of 2.429 metres.

26 Hugon Road SW6
2015/03821/FUL
Erection of a single storey rear extension; installation of 2 no. roof lights in the side roof slope of single storey back addition; installation of 2 no. new windows to the rear roof slope to replace the existing; installation of 3 no. roof lights in the front roof slope and 1 no. of roof light over the main flat roof at roof level; replacement of existing windows with new aluminium framed windows to the first floor level to the rear elevation.

22 Nasmyth Street W6
2015/03757/FUL
Erection of a rear roof extension involving an increase in the ridge height; erection of a single storey rear extension to the side of the existing back addition.

234 Blythe Road London
2015/03777/FUL
Erection of a part two, part four storey rear extension at ground, first, second and third floor level; excavation and enlargement of the existing basement and rear lightwell; formation of a new walkway at ground floor level to the rear elevation; installation of planters, 3no rooflights over the main flat roof at roof level; formation of a roof terrace at roof level; installation of a new door to replace the existing window to the side of single storey back addition at ground floor level; installation of a new window to the side of rear back addition at first floor level; relocation of existing timber door at the rear boundary wall elevation and erection of a single storey shed with opening adjoining the rear boundary wall; installation of a new access door at the rear of the boundary wall; alterations to the shopfront including the installation of a new timber entrance door, stall riser and new glazing to the front elevation.

98 Masbro' Road W14
2015/03935/FUL
Erection of a two storey rear extension at basement and ground floor level following the demolition of the existing single storey extension; excavation and lowering of the rear garden to form a rear lightwell, in connection with the enlargement of the existing basement.

St Dionis Church Parsons Green SW6
2015/03552/FUL
Erection of a two storey extension between church and vicarage; installation of 2no rooflights to roof of existing single storey rear extension; removal of existing boundary wall and erection of a brick wall with railings to St Dionis Road and Parsons Green elevations; erection of bin store to St Dionis Road elevation; formation of a new main entrance to the Parsons Green elevation; relocation of stained glass window from south elevation to St Dionis Road elevation, and replacement with clear glass and leaded lights; landscaping to Parsons Green frontage; internal alterations to include removal of existing walls in the kitchen and wc areas, formation of a new kitchen, installation of new doors in the lobby areas, installation of mezzanine floor and associated staircase.

5 Hammersmith Terrace W6
2015/03913/FUL
Erection of an additional floor at roof level.

Media Centre - BBC White City 201 Wood Lane W12
2015/03943/FUL
Installation of new louvres to existing BBC Energy Centre elevations and alterationsto the roof top plant.

FOR CONSERVATION AREA CONSENT (DEMOLITION WORK)
FOR LISTED BUILDING CONSENT

St Dionis Church Parsons Green SW6
2015/03553/LBC
Erection of a two storey extension between church and vicarage; installation of 2no rooflights to roof of existing single storey rear extension; removal of existing boundary wall and erection of a brick wall with railings to St Dionis Road and Parsons Green elevations; erection of bin store to St Dionis Road elevation; formation of a new main entrance to the Parsons Green elevation; relocation of stained glass window from south elevation to St Dionis Road elevation, and replacement with clear glass and leaded lights; landscaping to Parsons Green frontage; internal alterations to include removal of existing walls in the kitchen and wc areas, formation of a new kitchen, installation of new doors in the lobby areas, installation of mezzanine floor and associated staircase.

5 Hammersmith Terrace W6
2015/03914/LBC
Erection of an additional floor at roof level.

FOR DEVELOPMENT WHICH MAY AFFECT THE SETTING OR CONTEXT OF A LISTED BUILDING

St Dionis Church Parsons Green SW6
2015/03552/FUL
Erection of a two storey extension between church and vicarage; installation of 2no rooflights to roof of existing single storey rear extension; removal of existing boundary wall and erection of a brick wall with railings to St Dionis Road and Parsons Green elevations; erection of bin store to St Dionis Road elevation; formation of a new main entrance to the Parsons Green elevation; relocation of stained glass window from south elevation to St Dionis Road elevation, and replacement with clear glass and leaded lights; landscaping to Parsons Green frontage; internal alterations to include removal of existing walls in the kitchen and wc areas, formation of a new kitchen, installation of new doors in the lobby areas, installation of mezzanine floor and associated staircase.

5 Hammersmith Terrace W6
2015/03913/FUL
Erection of an additional floor at roof level.
Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by **19th September 2015**. See below for ways of commenting on applications.

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER 2013
NOTICES UNDER REGULATION 13

West 12 The Broadway Shepherd's Bush Green W12
2015/04008/FUL
I give notice that Esquires Coffee is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Use of part of the public highway as an outside seating area comprising of 6no tables with 6no parasols and 12no benches.
Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by **19th September 2015**. See below for ways of commenting on applications.
Signed: **NIGEL PALLACE**
Executive Director for Transport and Technical Services on behalf of HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL

You can view applications, make comments and monitor their progress on our website: www.lbhf.gov.uk/planning. Click on the 'Planning Online' logo on the Planning Home Page.You can also E-mail comments to: plancomments@lbhf.gov.uk
You can also inspect details of applications using computers at our office **RECEPTION FIRST FLOOR HAMMERSMITH TOWN HALL EXTENSION KING STREET W6** between 9.00am and 5.00pm, Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays.
If you want to make comments on applications please E-mail them through our website or post them to **DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT SERVICE ENVIRONMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT TOWN HALL KING STREET W6 9JU** by the date shown above. Please include the application reference number and the name of the planning officer. We will try to consider any representations received after the date indicated but this cannot be guaranteed so please reply promptly. For initial enquiries call our information and reception service on **020 8753 1081 or 020 8753 1082**.

lbhf.gov.uk/planning Online
Send us your comments about planning applications via our website: **www.lbhf.gov.uk/planning**

Hammersmith & Fulham Council

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (PROHIBITION OF WAITING ON POLICE VEHICLE BAYS) ORDER 20**

1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham propose to make the above-mentioned Order under the powers granted by section 6 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended.
2. The general effect of the Order would be to prohibit waiting by vehicles, except liveried police vehicles, at any time on a "police vehicle" bay on the north-west side of Merrington Road, opposite Nos. 3, 5 and 7 Merrington Road.
3. A copy of the proposed Orders, the Councils statement of reasons for proposing to make the Orders and documents giving more detailed particulars of the proposed Orders, can be inspected during normal office hours on Mondays to Fridays inclusive until the end of a period of 6 weeks beginning with the date on which the Orders are made, or as the case may be, the Council decides not to make the Orders
4. Any person wishing to object to the proposed Orders or make other representations should send a statement in writing to the following address: Transport and Technical Services Group, Highways and Engineering Division, Environment Department, Town Hall Extension, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 9JU until the expiration of 21 days from the date on which the notice is published.

Dated this 27th day of August 2015

Chris Bainbridge
Head of Transport Policy & Network Management
Transport & Technical Services

LICENSING ACT 2003
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR VARIATION OF PREMISES LICENCE

NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT Rock E Limited has applied to Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea on 25 August 2015 to vary the premises licence at Dirty Bones, 20 Kensington Church Street, London, W8 4EP so as to extend the permitted hours for all licensable activities by one hour and 30 minutes to 01.30 the mornings following Tuesday to Saturday, as more particularly set out in the application.

Any person who wishes to make a representation in relation to this application must give notice in writing to ***Licensing Authority, 37 Pembroke Road, London, W8 6PW*** to be received by no later than 22 September 2015 stating the grounds for making said representation.

A record of the application can be inspected on the Council's website www.rbkc.gov.uk or at the above address during office hours. The register can be viewed at the above address during office hours.

It is an offence, under section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003, to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in or in connection with an application for a premises licence and the maximum fine on being convicted of such an offence is £5,000.

Thomas & Thomas Partners LLP
38a Monmouth Street,
London WC2H 9EP
www.tandtp.com

MOLLY PATRICIA REDFORD (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925, notice is hereby given that any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the above named, late of Flat 4, 24 Queen's Gate Terrace, Kensington, London SW7 5PH, who died on 6/3/2015 are required to send written particulars to the undersigned on or before 12/11/2015, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

Penningtons Manches LLP,
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2. 'Classified' Advertisers offering goods or service of a business, commercial or trade nature will, at the discretion of the Publishers, be deemed 'Trade Advertisers', and as such, must include their names in advertisements. A telephone number is an optional addition to these requirements and not an alternative.
To comply with the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order 1977, Trade Advertisers must make it clear that they are selling goods in the course of business either by content, format, size or place of the advertisement or by including words such as 'trade', 'dealer', 'agent', 'wholesaler', '(T)' etc. in the advertisement.
3. The Publishers accept no liability whatsoever for any loss or damage however caused arising out of:
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(c) Any delay in forwarding or omission to forward replies to box numbers to the Advertiser.
4. The Publishers will endeavour to publish advertisements on the day / date or day / dates specified by the Advertiser but insertion days / dates cannot be guaranteed.
5. Where shrinkage of advertisement occurs for whatever reasons the advertisement will be charged to the nearest full centimetre. This will NOT apply to the full-page advertisements, which remain full pages even after shrinkage.
6. The Publishers reserve the right to reject an advertisement or to vary it in any way they deem fit, at any time before publication, whether or not the advertisement has already been accepted for publication.
7. Whilst every effort is made to minimise errors in advertisements, mistakes do sometimes occur. Advertisers or their agents should therefore check their advertisements and inform us of any errors immediately. Responsibility cannot be accepted for more than one incorrect insertion. Typographical or minor changes, which do not affect the value of the advertisement, do not quality for republication or allowances.
8. All gross advertising rates (except classified lineage and semi-display) are subject to and include a 0.1% Advertising Standards Board of Finance surcharge, payable by the advertisers to help finance the self-regulatory control system administered by the Advertising Standards Authority.
9. All rates quoted are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.
10. Should the rate for advertisements be altered the price for remaining insertions shall be revised accordingly or the publishers shall have the right to cancel that proportion of the order.
11. The placing of an advertisement order will be deemed an acceptance of these conditions.
12. Account facilities are granted at the discretion of the Company.
13. All accounts must be settled within the terms agreed by the Company and the Customer.
(1) Should an advertiser be in breach of the agreed terms, the publisher shall be entitled to levy a 10% surcharge on the value of the whole debt in respect of accounts with terms of less than 30 days, and any discounts or commissions that had been allowed will be reclaimed.
(2) Regular monthly accounts that are in breach of the agreed terms will pay an interest rate of 6% above the current bank of England base rate for each month that the account is overdue and discounts or commissions that had been allowed will be reclaimed. Should Legal action be required the interest will be charged in accordance with the County Court Act 1984.
14. Where an advertiser instructs / appoints an advertising agent to act on their behalf, the advertiser will remain jointly and severally liable for payment in respect for an advertisement(s) should the appointed agent fail to pay. For the avoidance of doubt, the agent acts for the advertiser and not for the publisher with the agent being responsible for notifying the advertiser of this liability.
15. All queries must be notified, preferably in writing to the accounts department of the publisher within 7 days of the invoice date.
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Box numbers alone are not available for use in 'Trade' advertisements, other than Employment and Business Opportunities.
Holiday & Travel Category
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CLOSING DATE: Friday 11th September, 2015 at noon
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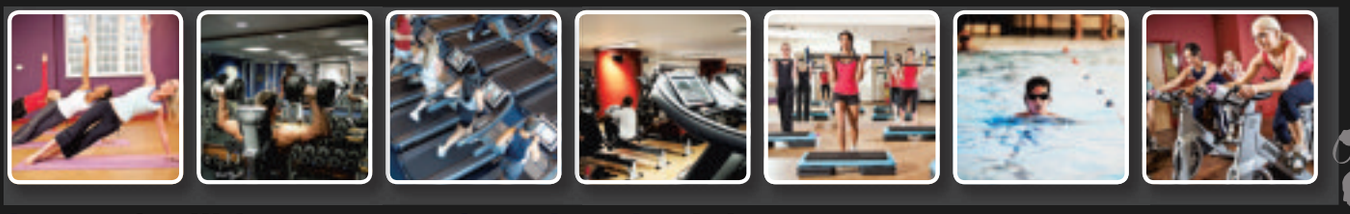
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LONDON WEEKLY NEWS sport

Chery icing on the cake for R's

THREE consecutive league wins and a rare clean sheet . . . no wonder QPR head coach Chris Ramsey reckons "life is good", as his side moved up to fourth place in the Championship table following Saturday's late 1-0 victory at Huddersfield Town.

Tjaronn Chery, one of numerous summer signings, grabbed the winner with a measured left-foot finish at the far post in the 84th minute.

"He's settled in well since the minute he arrived but there's so much more to come from him," enthused Ramsey.

"I've been on at him to get into the box and take a gamble – and he did that today and got his reward."

The game looked destined for a goalless draw but Ramsey was delighted to see his players rewarded for sticking to their game-plan.

"We never gave up, we never changed the game-plan – we just stuck to our task and if you do that, more often than not you'll get a chance and we did just that today," he said.

Chery's cool finish won it for QPR but Ramsey was just as pleased with a first clean sheet of the season in the league – only the third time it's happened in 18 matches since he took charge last February.

He continued: "I thought the back four were excellent today – that was very pleasing. They played with their heads against a decent front two, who were a real handful at times.

"They were solid and that gave us a base to build from. And in front of them Ale (Faurlin) and Michael (Doughty) were good at keeping the tempo going when we could.

"Michael showed today that he's prepared to step up and be a Championship player, which is great."

Volatile nature

Given the volatile nature of the second tier, Ramsey is right not to get carried away with R's unbeaten start from their first four league games. "Life is good at the moment but we won't get carried away," he says.

"I'd say we're probably just above par in terms of where we're at after the first month of the season but we've got to build on this now.

"We've got to keep working hard, chalk up as many points as we can and then see where it takes us.

"As we know, it's a very hard, unforgiving league, but I'm pleased with the start – and pleased for the fans, who again travelled in great numbers to support us today."

After a two-week break due to international fixtures, R's return to action against Nottingham Forest at Loftus Road on September 12.

LOFTUS ROAD RANGERS REVIEW
With Tony McDonald



CHERY ripe: Tjaronn Chery's third goal for QPR proved the winner Pic: Rob Newell/Digital South

THE draw for the third round of the Capital One Cup sees Fulham host Premier League Stoke City – managed by former Whites boss Mark Hughes – on Tuesday, September 22, while Chelsea travel to League One Walsall for their tie the next night.

A QPR side comprising second string players bowed out of the League Cup after losing 2-1 at home to Carlisle United last week.

Of much more relevance to Chelsea and their fans was the draw for the group stage of the Champions League, where they will take their place in a relatively easy section along with Maccabi Tel-Aviv, Dynamo Kiev and Porto – the Portuguese club Jose Mourinho steered to a shock victory in the 2004 competition.

SURREY are through to the semi-finals of the Royal London One-Day Cup after pulling off a 17-run victory – via the Duckworth-Lewis method – against Kent Spitfires in the quarter-final at The Kia Oval last week.

Opener Jason Roy made 112 off 116 balls as Surrey posted 273 with one ball of their innings to spare after winning the toss and deciding to bat first.

Roy, who has been named in England's ODI and T20 squads to face Australia, notched his century by whipping Matt Hunn to the midwicket boundary rope – his third hundred of this year's competition came from 111 deliveries.

He formed a match-winning partnership worth 97 with Rory Burns (42 runs), which ended when Roy swept James Tredwell straight to Alex Blake at deep midwicket and departed in the 36th over.

But having lost their last eight wickets for just 81, Surrey were not home and dry. Kent reached 22-2 before rain saw them set a revised 251 off 40 overs.

Career-best

Their number nine batsman Matt Coles moved to a remarkable career-best century from 73 deliveries, including nine sixes, but just as it looked like he was going to pull off something extraordinary, he top-edged Tom Curran on 100 and wicketkeeper Ben Foakes took a steepling catch as Kent were all out for 223 in 37.4 overs.

Surrey face Nottinghamshire Outlaws in the ODC semi-final at The Oval next Monday (Sept 7 from 11.30am).

Roy told Surrey's online TV channel: "Huge relief at the end. Coles managed to middle a lot but we got over the line. We thought it was going to be easier than that before he came in and I'd be lying if I said I wasn't nervous near the end.

"I'm in a bit of a daze but I'm stoked that we're in the semis. It was an extremely amazing game of cricket."

County Cricket

Roy joy for Surrey



JASON Roy guided Surrey to the semi-finals Pic: Rob Newell/Digital South

Mourinho concerned

Continued from p28

Reflecting on Saturday's defeat to Palace, where the only bright spark was Radamel Falcao's first goal for the Blues, Mourinho believes his side, while not deserving to win, should not have lost.

"First of all I want to say Palace came with everything," he said. "Their team and players were ready. They came with a fantastic spirit and they were lucky but deserved their luck. They fought a lot for it.

"Also, my team deserved more. Maybe not to win it, but not to lose."

Then Mourinho returned to a familiar theme: "The referee made a big mistake – there was a clear penalty with the result at 0-0 and, obviously, it influenced the result.

"I'm speaking about the one with (Kurt) Zouma, that I watched at half-time in the dressing room. It looked clear when I saw it on the pitch in real time. On TV, it is a clear penalty."

Aside from being denied a penalty, the Chelsea manager is dismissive of chances created that don't result in goals.

"It's about goals you score," he went on. "The number of chances created reflects how you are playing but it's not enough just to create chances, you have to score. And we got only one goal."

Mourinho was also unhappy about individuals and the overall team performance.

"A performance is a collective effort from all the players at the same time. That's the way we worked during the week, to perform collectively. And obviously, if it's a collective effort, you need individual performances. At this level, when the opponents are so good, well organised and with nothing to lose, when you are up against that, you need people to perform. I cannot say I had 11 players perform at the same time. To be fair, two or three were far from good."

Mourinho felt that the defeat wouldn't prompt any knee-jerk reaction in the transfer market, but he made a veiled criticism of the club for not getting the players he identified as long ago as April.

"I hope not," he said. I don't like that (knee-jerk reaction to a defeat). I gave the club the report of the season's projection on April 21st. I don't think now I'm going to them to say I want this player or that one. No, we have to do better, me and the players."

While Blues have taken only four points from four games, he is not conceding that they are out of the title race.

"No, we have eight points less than the leader," he said. "In another league, I'd say that the title was over but in this league it's not game over. In one month last season we lost a seven-point lead to Manchester City. In January we were on the same points with them. So nobody can tell me that on January 1st, 2016, we won't have recovered the points deficit."

Chelsea's next game is at Everton on September 12 and Mourinho feel impotent that he cannot do anything to arrest their current poor form.

"I do not know what can happen in the next 15 days," he said. "Every player goes out with their national team and I stay at Cobham with four players. I can't work, I can't improve.

"At this moment, I can't do anything to improve my team. But if a player is not performing there are two ways to look at it. One way is that I wait and trust the player to get better. You wait and wait. Maybe it comes, maybe not.

"Or, even trusting the player, the other way is to change them."

CHELSEA Ladies thrashed the London Bees from division two 8-0 to win a place in the quarter-final of the Continental Tyres Cup at Staines.

A hat-trick from Marija Banusic was bettered by Rosella Ayane, who netted four. The other strike came from Laura Rafferty.

The win, seen by 597, keeps Chelsea Ladies on course for a domestic treble.

Paul Lagan

Graham Leggat remembered

FULHAM supporters of a certain age will have fond memories of former striker Graham Leggat, who died last week in Canada, aged 81.



Signed from home-town club Aberdeen for £20,000, Leggat helped Whites gain promotion to the top flight and reach the FA Cup semi-final in 1962.

He scored a remarkable 134 goals in 280 league and cup games for the club, which included eight hat-tricks, between August 1958 and December 1966.

A right-winger or forward, his main claim to fame was scoring the fastest hat-trick recorded in top flight history, when he netted three times in as many minutes as Fulham famously thrashed Ipswich Town 10-1 on Boxing Day, 1963 (in fact, he scored four goals past Ipswich keeper Roy Bailey that day). His record stood until Southampton's Sadio Mane scored his treble against Aston Villa as recently as last May.

Leggat is still the only Fulham player to have scored a century of goals in the top sphere.

He earned 18 full Scotland caps from 1956 until 1960 (eight goals) and played against Yugoslavia and Paraguay in the 1958 World Cup tournament.

As well as Aberdeen, the pacy Leggat also played in England for Birmingham City, Rotherham United and non-league Bromsgrove Rovers.

In 1971 he emigrated to Canada, where he spent a season with Toronto Metros before embarking on a new career as a TV football analyst.

FOOTBALL FIXTURES

Saturday, September 12
QPR v Nottingham Forest, 12.30
Everton v CHELSEA, 12.45
Sunday, September 13
FULHAM v Blackburn Rovers, 12.00

London Weekly News

SPORT

Thursday, September 3, 2015 ● SPORTS DESK: 07711 169 427



■ MASKED man Gary Cahill in flying form against Palace's Connor Wickham Pic: Rob Newell/Digital South

Jose puzzled by poor start

JOSE Mourinho is beating his chest and demanding that his players respond to the challenge of facing up to a miserable start to the season, which has yielded just four points from four Premier League matches.

● By LWN reporter **Paul Lagan**
sport@londonweeklynews.co.uk

But he doesn't know why they are playing poorly and is frustrated that he now has to wait two weeks before he can get the players back on the pitch, due to the break in league games for international matches.

The embarrassing 2-1 defeat by Crystal Palace at The Bridge on Saturday, only Mourinho's second home defeat in 100 league matches at SW6, has left the champions languishing in 13th place in the Premier League, eight points behind leaders Manchester City.

A clearly frustrated Mourinho said: "I don't know why they are playing poorly.

"I don't have an answer for everything. You have players who have fantastic seasons and fantastic moments and the next season, they do not have the same.

"I don't want to speak about names from other teams but I could perfectly tell you fantastic players with a very poor season last season. If you ask me, will I accept this, cross my arms, sit in a nice chair and wait calmly for the performance level to be back? No. I have to work, I have to react, I have to analyse and if I feel the players are not in conditions to react and give more, I have to make changes. I have never had a problem with that."

Still hoping

With the transfer window open for another 24 hours or so as LWN Sport went to press on Monday, Mourinho was still hoping to add John Stones and Paul Pogba to his squad.

Despite Everton stating Stones is not for sale, even at £37m, Mourinho would not let up piling the pressure on his board to deliver the 21-year-old centre-back, who has already handed in a transfer request.

French midfielder Pogba's proposed transfer is more straightforward. Juventus simply want wads of Euros, Chelsea don't want to pay the £50m the Italian champions are demanding and hope, instead, to offload Mikel and either Ramires or Oscar as part of the package.

With the so-called Financial Fair Play scheme seemingly benched, it's up to the board to convince owner Roman Abramovich to splash the cash.

Abramovich will argue that the deal handed to Mourinho last season was to produce a side that did not need serious and expensive additions and had at least two seasons' worth of success in them.

Mourinho argues that, with the likes of Swansea City and Crystal Palace strengthening, it means his side, without investment, is standing still.

The difficulty for Mourinho is that his established players are now failing him, with Branislav Ivanovic, Nemanja Matic and Cesc Fabregas all seemingly still on their summer holiday beach. One bright spot is that Kurt Zouma and Kenedy performed admirably.

This week at STAMFORD BRIDGE

"I have beautiful young eggs in Kenedy, Ruben Loftus-Cheek and Zouma," he said.

"If you look at the Palace game, all of these young eggs did well. Zouma showed great personality, great game. Kenedy changed the game, gave a different intensity and a different quality. Ruben was fine too. We still have a few young eggs in our team."

So is Eden Hazard an egg, chick or a fully grown mature animal?

"The best player in the Premier League does not need to mature," suggested Mourinho. "But if you are the best in the Premier League, I think it should be a good responsibility to have another season similar to the previous one.

"In general terms, it is difficult for a team to have a consistent performance when some of the players are not performing at a good level. When you have six or seven performing and three or four who are not at an acceptable level, it is difficult for a team to be consistent in their performance."

He cites what Manchester City has done in the market – latest addition Kevin De Bruyne was added on Sunday for £55m – as the way forward.

"City reacted to the fact they had lost the title," he said.

"They reacted by buying fantastic players. This is their job and if they have that possibility and the economic potential to do that, then good. They did well. It is no problem.

"You see my players against Palace and, for sure, you know what I do – that we could clearly identify two or three players that can do better.

"It is not the point to be loyal (to them) or not, it is to analyse if they are ready to give an answer and to try to fight against that bad individual form or not. On Saturday, they disappeared. Now they go to their national teams for two weeks and they are back two days before the next game. It is not good for trying to push for more."

Club line

Mourinho tows the club line when De Bruyne and Andre Schurrle are mentioned as players Chelsea let go cheaply and are now paying the price.

"They (De Bruyne and others) left because they wanted to leave," he said. "We never said you have no time or possibility (to get into the team)."

One suggestion as to why City lost the title last term was that they lacked the appetite for the fight. Mourinho bridles at the suggestion that his side are suffering from the same lack of desire this season.

"If that is the question, it is very sad," he said. "I feel exactly the opposite way. When I win, I want to win again, I want to win more. I feel fantastic motivation for more. If you win it once and the next year you are not on fire, or you are not ready to at least fight for more, that is sad. My medal is at home in a drawer."

■ Continued on page 27

Focus on Craven Cottage

By TONY McDONALD

Whites off the mark in style

FULHAM followed up their convincing 3-0 midweek League Cup win over Sheffield United with their first league victory of the season – a 3-1 triumph at bottom-of-the-table Rotherham United on Saturday.

Making his first return to Rotherham after his summer switch to SW6, Whites' new boy Ben Pringle got the visitors off to a flier by scoring from close-range in the seventh minute.

Leading 2-0 after Ross McCormack scored his third goal in two games from the penalty spot, Andrew Lonergan then saved Matt Derbyshire's second-half penalty. Jonson Clarke-Harris pulled one back for the Millers but Cauley Woodrow sealed the points in stoppage time.

"We made a little bit of hard work of it but to get our first league win was important," said Whites' manager Kit Symons. "We put in a decent performance. We conceded a penalty and gave away a stupid goal but, overall, I'm pleased with the performance.



■ GET in! Ross McCormack looks pleased with his penalty strike

"At 2-0, the third goal is always crucial. We rode our luck with Lonners' penalty save and you hoped we'd learned our lesson. But we didn't and conceded a poor goal by making poor decisions.

"Although we defended very well, it just takes one thing to drop or someone to lose their marker and all that hard work is gone. I was obviously very pleased when we scored the third late on to give ourselves a cushion.

"I was delighted for Ben. He's a bit of a crowd favourite here, so that's why I took him off with a minute to go, so he could get the recognition he got from the home fans. We're delighted to have him, he's an unsung hero who works his socks off."

After the international break, Fulham resume with a home league match against Blackburn Rovers on Sunday, September 13.

■ WHITES seem to be addressing their notorious 'soft centre' by signing central defender Richard Stearman from Wolves.

As LWN Sport went to press, the 28-year-old was set to move to Craven Cottage for an initial fee of £1m and up to £1m in add-ons.

"The club have accepted a bid from Fulham and Richard is discussing personal terms over the weekend," Wolves boss Kenny Jackett said on Saturday.

Stearman has spent seven years at Wolves, having joined them for an undisclosed fee from Leicester City in the summer of 2008.

Since then he has played 234 times for Wanderers, as well as a four-month loan spell at Ipswich Town in 2013.

FULHAM HAT–TRICK HERO DIES – page 27